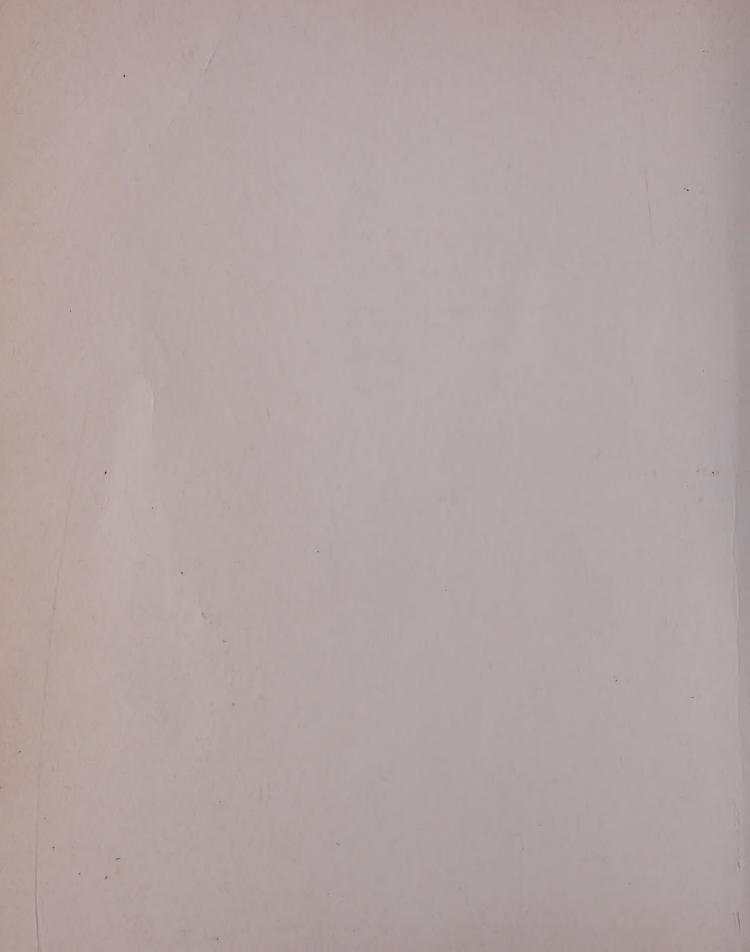


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The words above were written in May 1784 by John Walter, a bankrupted Lloyds underwriter turned printer, to his patron Benjamin Franklin, then the American minister in Paris.

On January 1 1785 Walter duly published the first issue of The Daily Universal Register, a title which he changed three years later to

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This magazine commemorates the bicentenary of the modest journal which became the best-known newspaper in the world

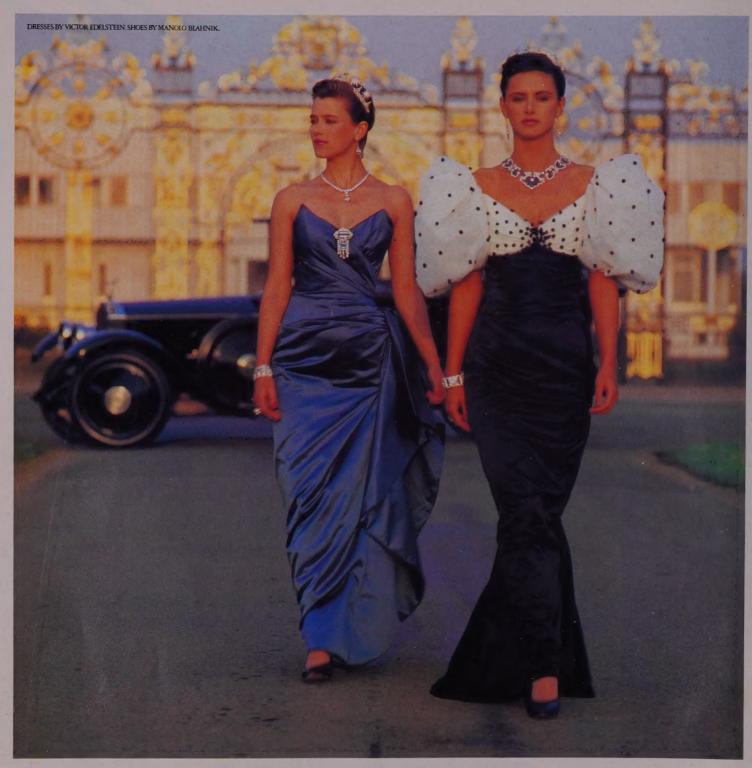


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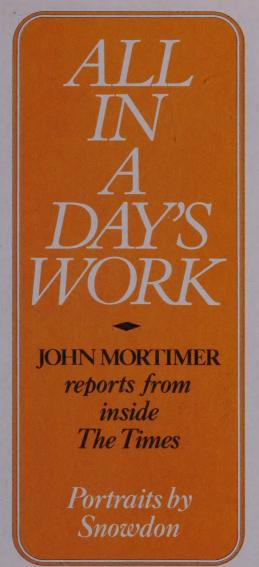


Editor-Charles Douglas-Home hen I was a child my father would disappear into the lavatory after breakfast muttering some such cryptic formula as "The NCO sounds agony. Two words, 8 and 10." Much later he would emerge with the triumphant cry of "Corporal punishment". He had succeeded in solving another clue in the *Times* crossword.

For a middle-class family in the Thirties The Times was our matins; the crossword, the gardening article and, of course, the Law Reports, were our daily ritual. As a young practitioner, and before a killjoy Act of Parliament put a stop to the publication of the full and scandalous details of divorce cases, my father had been a Times law reporter in the matrimonial courts: later other reporters could be relied on to give him star billing in particularly sensational will cases. He read the obituaries to note the passing of impossible judges, or contemporaries unable to survive the heat of battle in the Probate. Divorce and Admiralty Division. Although Hitler was screaming nightly threats at us over the wireless, I cannot remember that we ever read the Times leaders or noticed whether or not they were soft on the Nazis. The Times was part of our life, not only a daily observance but an entertainment somewhere between reading Browning aloud and listening to Tommy Handley in ITMA.

At school we got *The Times* at a cheap rate, and I noticed the peculiar brutality of those boys who opted for *The Morning Post*. I began to do the crossword, read the Law Reports and later came to open the paper with nervous fingers for notices of a play or a book; I searched for mistakes in the report of a criminal defence, found harmless fun in the notices of judicial appointments, illumination in the gardening article and inspiration in the wine column on Saturdays. When publication of *The Times* was stopped for a year it was like the death of the past. Other papers came off on your fingers, or dealt in painful detail with one-parent families and the Expectation of the Orgasm: none other seemed to fill the position of the magazine of my particular parish.

The shut-down, the changes of proprietor, the editorship of Mr Harry Evans, and Mr Evans's book, which read like a couple of dozen riveting episodes of *Dynasty*, threw a new and unexpected light on *The Times*. Printers, fathers of chapels, men in mackintoshes, Mr Rupert Murdoch, the new proprietor, Mr Evans himself, were constantly emerging from its doorways into the light of television cameras and making statements. I had clearly been wrong to regard the journal primarily as a vehicle for an important theatrical review or a cunningly concealed



anagram. The departure of Mr Evans, the elevation of Mr Charles Douglas-Home, were events to rank with the storming of the Odessa steps and the end of the Thirty Years War.

I had, I supposed, been wrong about *The Times*. Was it, in fact, not only a British institution but an instrument of government, or at least an organization riddled with intrigue and primitive romance, where hard-faced men in shirt sleeves shouted at each other to "hold the front page"? To discover the truth, there was no better way than to spend a day and part of a night at The *Times*. It was Thursday, September 20, 1984, the day, as it turned out, that suicide bombers attacked the US embassy in Beirut.

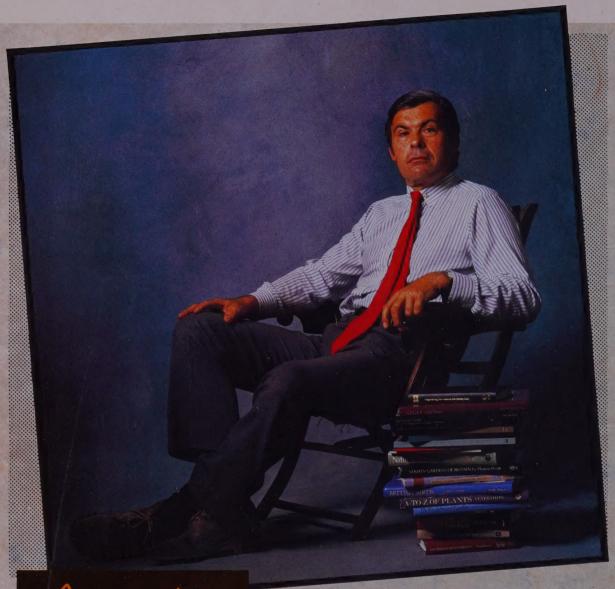
Perhaps, I thought, it is not only a British institution but an organization riddled with intrigue and primitive romance The Times building was moved during Lord Thomson's reign from its origins in Printing House Square, near Blackfriars station, in London, to the middle reaches of the Gray's Inn Road (the staider, long-serving grandees of the Times staff, those who write leader columns without removing their jackets, are still called the "Black Friars"). Among the small cafés, betting shops, pubs and garages south of King's Cross, the Sunday Times building, all glass and glitter, is joined to the more sober, dun-coloured Times by a sort of Bridge of Sighs across which thousands of words travel to the printing presses each night.

My arrival at *The Times* encouraged the idea of a trip down Memory Lane. I shared the lift with a very old, white-haired man who was leaning on his umbrella and wiping his face with a scarlet handkerchief. He nipped out at the editorial floor and tottered smartly into a door marked Obituaries. But then I was in the presence of Liz Seeber, the editor's executive assistant. "Look me up in Harry Evans's book if you like," she said, sipping Highland Spring water. "I'm the Mata Hari of the first floor." Then Colin Webb, ex-editor of the Cambridge Evening News and now deputy editor of The Times, came out of his office. "I hear you're going to be a fly on the wall," he said. "I hope nobody swots you." I was on my way to the 11.30 meeting, the first of the day, at which the shape of the next morning's paper would be decided. Charles Douglas-Home was away, although he telephoned frequently. Charles Wilson, the other newly appointed deputy editor, was with the Times correspondent somewhere in Lebanon. Colin Webb, wearing a grey suit and without, so far as I could tell, ever removing his jacket, was about to take the chair.

Colin Webb had got out of bed at 6.30, listened to the *Today* programme, got a "taste of the tabloids", read the heavier opposition papers, had a subliminal glance at breakfast television and arrived at *The Times* around a quarter past nine, when Features, Home and Foreign, the three main desks in the huge news room – the Pit or the Playpen, as I heard it variously called – were manned by a few early comers. He had conducted an inquest on the night's production, which had passed without accident following a Tuesday night of disaster when trouble with colour reproduction meant the loss of several editions.

Now he sat with David Flynn, the deputy executive editor, and half a dozen middle-aged, spreading men in shirt sleeves around a table in a small, modern conference room under a clock which seemed to have stopped permanently at half past ten. Liz Seeber handed round schedules – lists of possible stories – and the barons in





When I first came they suggested I take a £100 cut in salary for the honour of working for The Times

charge of Business, Sport, Home, Foreign or Pictures paid their formal tributes.

Clive Borrell, in command of the home front that day, politely offered a tempting collection: the GLC by-election results (not expected until around midnight), David Steel's intervention at the Liberal Assembly in favour of a nuclear freeze, and the decision to cancel the tower on the National Gallery extension.

Ivan Barnes, the foreign news editor, with a distinguished grey beard, glasses, a pink striped shirt and a pen hanging round his neck on a string, offered the Australian prime minister weeping in Parliament, having been called "a little crook" by the leader of the Opposition. Barnes said there would be no follow-up to the story of the sleeping judge in the Hitler Diaries trial, then modestly introduced what would become the great story of the day. "We're not sure yet whether it was the Islamic Jihad people," he said, "but there's been a bomb in the US embassy in Beirut. The British Ambassador may have been injured, which

makes the situation even more important."
"Where's Bob Fisk?" the deputy editor inquired.

"I wish you'd ask me that this afternoon. We don't know if Fisk's even heard about it. We think he's in south Lebanon. And we don't know where Charlie Wilson is.'

I hope Charles wasn't having lunch with the British Ambassador. You'll keep on to it during the day?'

"Oh yes. We'll find Fisky. Otherwise we'll

cover the story from agency reports."

It was then about 11.45 am and it had become clear that the likely lead story was the US embassy story. After the meeting the men in shirt sleeves began to move away, leaving those few who would write the leaders. These pronouncements, they say at *The Times*, come from "a collegiate view". The College of Cardinals sits in private for its sacred deliberations, and all flies are removed from the walls. The morning conference had been a quiet and well-mannered business, with gently smiling men speaking in low voices. No one had shouted, been sacked or offered to resign.

Philip Howard, the literary editor, was looking suntanned and remarkably cheerful in the midst of an avalanche of books that he would have no space to review, even with two pages that week. "It's a tragedy," he said.

He has been at The Times since he left the political diary of the Glasgow Herald in 1964, when he became, curiously enough, women's lacrosse correspondent, then literary editor. "When I first came they suggested I take a £100 cut in salary for the honour of working for The Times." It was he who told me about the Black Friars, the old guard who regarded working for any other paper as the height of vulgarity and who would never have stepped out of the office to be interviewed on television.

"Under Barnes, the radical early 19thcentury editor, we never reviewed fiction. He said he preferred the 'great romance of politics'. But it could be terribly dangerous to write nonfiction. Lord Brougham, who was Lord Chancellor, wrote a slim volume on Demosthenes, and Barnes, who had quarrelled with him, gave it five appalling notices over five successive issues.

"When we did start reviewing fiction, we always gave Dickens terrible reviews. I have an uneasy feeling that was because he edited another paper. When we reviewed Jane Eyre, we said it



We're not really interested in scandal and divorce. People being blackballed in gentlemen's clubs is more my speciality

was 'booksellers' trash'. But George Eliot always got good notices, and Disraeli was a favourite."

Philip Howard's pages had been set into type early on Wednesday. He took me on my first visit to the composing room, where men who once sweated over furnaces of hot lead and crashing, chattering Linotype machines now tap edited stories into computers, or cut the electronically produced print with minute accuracy for pasting up on to boards for each page.

On our way we passed the deserted halls where the unused, outdated machines stood shrouded in dust sheets. "There you are," he said, waving an affectionate farewell to the silent machines, "the guts of a vanished technology."

The letters department, a small office with two men and a secretary, is presided over by Leon Pilpel. *The Times* gets about 55,000 letters a year, probably 10 per cent more than any other paper. To get in, letters have to be topical, well written, concise and exclusive to *The Times*. "Often our letters start some continuing controversy, like the one from the Governor of Wormwood Scrubs calling his prison a penal dustbin. We try to make the letters as varied as possible," Mr Pilpel said.

"We check all the facts in the letters. We don't often make mistakes, although we once

printed a letter from someone who pretended to be Lord Kinsale. We got a reply from the real Lord Kinsale, who was very nice about it. We don't print letters about members of the Royal Family because they can't answer back.

"Some people write every day, some write five or six letters a day. We have one South African gentleman who has sent us the same letter every day for 30 years, on very expensive paper. Sometimes he delivers it by hand."

Leon Pilpel was sorting out letters for the next day's issue. He would report his selection to the 40'clock editorial conference. The lead letter was likely to be an attack by Professor Lawrence Freedman on a leader supporting President Reagan's so-called Star Wars policy. The comic final letter, however, was proving difficult to find.

In the Obituaries office there was no sign of the elderly visitor I had noticed at the start of my visit to *The Times*. Had he gone in to write a tribute to a friend, or had he mysteriously passed away? There was only the editor, a youngish, perfectly healthy former foreign correspondent named Peter Strafford and his assistant, Juliet Lygon. "I don't regard it as a morbid sort of job at all," Mr Strafford said cheerfully. "It's fascinating work, all about people. Of course we've got about 6,000

obituaries written and we try to keep them up to date, but we rely a great deal on information from the family and from friends and colleagues. With big names we like to print the obituary on the day.

"Are our obituaries sometimes bitchy? I wouldn't say bitchy. By and large we try to be broadly favourable to the corpse. But we don't see it as our function to console widows or keep the family happy. We aim for a fair assessment of a career, and really the obituaries are part of the news pages. I have to get my page upstairs by 5 pm, unless there's a really big death. Our lead tonight is Dr Soloman Wand, who had a lot to do with planning the Health Service. Then we've got a film actor for you, Richard Baseheart, and a Soviet diplomat. It's surprising how many of our obituaries are about foreigners.

"No. You can't see your obituary. No-

body can."





more space because of the day's wealth of stories. Could they drop an ad or put it in later in the week? Colin Webb looked at the plan and agreed that one particular ad could be postponed

A story was beginning to surface on the Foreign desk. Reports were coming in of a massacre, by Druze soldiers in the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army militia, of a number of Shiite Muslims. It was thought that the Israelis had sealed off the area. Perhaps Robert Fisk was trapped in southern Lebanon and would never get to Beirut to write the story of the embassy bomb. By lunchtime all the calls and telexes from the Foreign desk to him, via Associated Press in Lebanon, had failed to produce any comeback, like tennis balls served into a pond.

Since the departure of Gerald Long, Mr Rupert Murdoch's eccentric, bon vivant managing director, nobody at The Times seems to show a great interest in food. Machines in the corridor near the news room hold sandwiches, KitKats, tins of Coke and orangeade. The canteen is in the Sun-

day Times building. Brightly coloured as a hamburger joint, known to the staff as McMurdoch's, it serves cheap and reasonable food on plastic plates. David Flynn, the deputy executive editor and a former editor of *The Star*, Sheffield's evening paper, sometimes lunches there, but on that day he was at The Front Page in Clerkenwell.

When he got back at about ten to three he went to the counter in the middle of the news room, where photographs arrive from the picture desk. "The picture's the lynchpin of every page," he said. "But there isn't a definitive one from Beirut yet." He sorted through shots of a ruined building, a wounded US Marine and the British Ambassador's gunslinging minders.

As news came pouring out of the tape machines, it was torn off and taken by messengers round to the appropriate tables. There, Colin Webb told me, a "taster" savours the stories, rolls them round his tongue and frequently spits them

out. Other stories are given to the sub-editors, who cut them, scribble on them or translate the bleak prose of the agencies into the language of The Times. Then the chosen stories are shot up, in the sort of tube that was once the joy of old drapery shops, to the composing room.

At the 4 o'clock editorial conference I noticed that, contrary to my former impression, not all the men were spreading and shirt-sleeved. Sport and Business were quite young and wore jackets. Roger Wood (known in the composing room as Scoop), balding with a red beard, and Ivan Barnes, who gave the latest details from Lebanon, are both thin.

The American Ambassador had been buried in rubble and pulled out by our envoy, whose minders had shot at the assassins. "President Reagan was woken up for once and told the news," Ivan Barnes said. Then he told the meeting about the Druze massacre.







Cricket correspondent-John Woodcock

Clive Borrell, the deputy home editor, offered the front page a court injunction won by the Durham miners which ensured their right to work, and it was decided that there would have to be a late change in the front page when the results of the GLC by-elections came in. Colin Webb announced that the lead story would certainly be from Beirut and that the leaders were on the Belgrano, the Liberal debate on disarmament and the National Gallery extension.

After the meeting David Flynn went back to the news room and began to rough out a map of the front page. The picture, when it was chosen, would occupy five columns. There was a large blank space under it, which he hoped would be filled with a story by Robert Fisk from the front.

It was at 3 o'clock that afternoon, just an hour before the final conference, that Robert Fisk and Charles Wilson, driving northwards in Lebanon, heard, in a World Service broadcast, that the US embassy had been bombed.

Ivan Barnes's suppositions had been perfectly correct. They had been travelling in the south and were being briefed by the various factions. At 1.30 they had visited the Israeli troops and had been treated, Charles Wilson said later, with extreme discourtesy. They were curtly turned over to Christian gunmen of the South Lebanese Army militia to be escorted out of the area. In fact Druze of the SLA had massacred the villagers, as Ivan Barnes had reported, less than 20 miles from the Israeli post.

Charles Wilson and Robert Fisk were allowed to leave in their own car, but SLA vehicles drove in front and behind them. It was lucky for the front page that they were escorted northwards and that, when finally left to journey on alone, they tuned in to the World Service. Robert Fisk put his foot down immediately, hoping to reach Beirut and phone London by 4.45.

Angela Gordon, an extremely pretty girl with a strong Scottish accent, had finished editing the Diary by 5 o'clock. Once a peaceful account of life on the allotment and such like, the Diary has developed into what Angela Gordon's old employers on *The Daily Telegraph* call a mini *Private*

Eye. It's still signed PHS, which may stand for Printing House Square or, as its editor hopes, Pretty Hot Stuff.

"We're not really interested in marital scandal and divorce. People being blackballed in gentlemen's clubs is more my speciality," she said.

"It's not all publishers' parties, either. The Guardian published a story about Charlie Richardson, the gangster, having a chin-wag with Bettany, the spy, in prison. A man called Rocky Ryan, otherwise known as Rocky Salvatore, rang me and said he was a friend of Charlie Richardson and knew it couldn't be true. I went to see Mr Salvatore at his house in Neasden, which was decorated with paintings by Peter Sutcliffe of himself as God. Rocky Salvatore was wearing boxing boots and had boxing grease on his face and burnt hair. Later he told me that if I didn't use his story he'd come down mob-handed."

On that Thursday Angela Gordon's lead story concerned a proposed film of John De-Lorean's life, starring James Coburn.

Down the corridor, the fashion editor, Suzy Menkes, was surrounded by dresses which hung over desks and chairs to be photographed on models she had chosen. "I can take it for granted I'm writing for an intelligent reader when I write about clothes in *The Times*," she said. "I



mean, I can mention Beau Brummell and Vermeer and the women who read my pages will know what I'm talking about. Who are they? Barristers' wives, doctors' wives, businesswomen. They all have tribal identities. Fashion's different in South Ken and Islington. Of course, you can be South Ken at heart even though you're living in Parsons Green. I think it must be far harder to be fashion editor on *The Guardian*. There you get attacked for being sexist and making women sound frivolous. The trouble is that fashion isn't really fashionable any more."

Owen Hickey, in his office in the editorial corridor, had finished his leading article. "The deadlines get earlier and earlier because of the train times and the new technology," he said. "It gives us all less time to think." His office was full of books, he wore a slightly battered grey suit, had white hair and might have been a don in a history department. Had I found a Black Friar at last? How has the paper changed, I asked him. "Now we're much fuller of hustle and bustle, which is a good thing. Charlie Douglas-Home writes a lot of leaders himself, which William Haley never did.

"The Times used to be called The Thunderer," I said. "Do you still thunder at the Government occasionally?" "I think you should have a

recognizable philosophical position." Owen Hickey told me, "but thunder sparingly."

That night the first leader was on the sinking of the Belgrano and fully supported the Government's case, only gently chiding ministers for not having disclosed the details earlier.

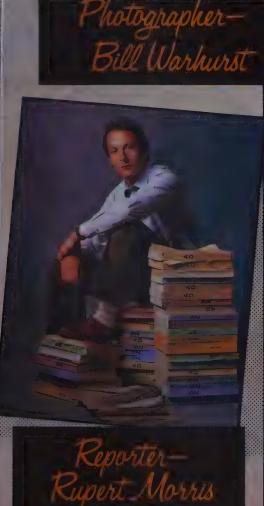
When I got back to the news room Colin Webb told me that Robert Fisk had telephoned and would be filing his story by 7 o'clock. "We think he got himself thrown out of south Lebanon," the deputy editor said, "so that he could get back up to Beirut. Fisk's a wonderful operator." He looked round at the steadily mounting activity. "Bad news makes a good day," he said. "I can smell the excitement in the news room."

By four minutes past seven most of Robert Fisk's copy was through and Ivan Barnes was talking to him on the telephone again. "You know what time our front page deadline is, Bob? Anyway you've got a good editorial adviser there." "Did Charles get to the minders and not just speak to the Ambassador?" David Flynn called across the news room floor. Ivan Barnes relayed the message. Then David Flynn spoke directly to Charles Wilson, a conversation full of laughs at the bizarre position of an editor being caught up in the night's biggest story.

That night Robert Fisk gave Charles Wilson a note in Arabic which said, "I am an English journalist." Armed with this document, Charles Wilson crossed the road blocks set up by a number of the warring factions in Beirut and finally found the British chargé d'affaires. But the Ambassador was in hospital and could see no one, and the minders were doing whatever minders do after they have shot a terrorist and their day's work is done.

By ten past eight the front page picture had been chosen. It was of the wounded Marine guard, Larry Grill from Alabama, being carried from the wrecked embassy. At 8.15 Colin Webb came into the news room and said that the deadline for the front page was "Now". Martin Huckerby, who had taken over the Foreign desk from Ivan Barnes – a younger man, small and eager, now in his shirt sleeves –was on the line to Beirut, talking to his star reporter. He'dcall again at 10.30 so that the story could be updated, he said.

By 8.30 the editor's day was over and the night editor assumed supreme command. Colin Webb went home to introduce himself to his wife. William Rees-Mogg, it seems, used to leave *The Times* at 6pm and come back after dinner. Harry Evans stayed until late. Charles Douglas-Home



often stays and invites guests for a salad and a glass of wine in his office. At 8.30 that Thursday night I was in the Packenham Arms round the corner, drinking beer with Rupert Morris, a young journalist who happened to be on duty and was facing a long night at his desk with nothing very much to do.

By 8.45 the composing room was filled with people and there were only eight more pages to be pasted up and sent for final printing. The skeleton of the front page was on a board; the rules were neatly in place, but there were no words on it yet save the title *The Times*. Roger Wood, the night editor, was hovering round this blank space. I asked Roger Pleece, one of the compositors, whether journalists would ever be allowed to tap out their own stories on the computers. "Provided we don't lose any more jobs, I can see it happening. It all depends on how much money people take home."

Whatever happens in the future, the men speak with some nostalgia of the old technology—of the crashing Linotype machines on which you could put your sausage rolls to keep them hot, of the rivulets of molten lead, and of the bar in *The Times* where a machine operator could get his beer between bashing out thousands of words he couldn't see and never read.

"What we're sweating on," said Rick Catchpole, the night's production manager, who was now responsible for getting the paper off on time, "is the 11 o'clock train. That's what the first edition, what we call our six-star edition, has to catch. It's the train that supplies the north of England. If we miss it we have to arrange transport for the paper from all sorts of different stations." He explained: "The stars on a paper's editions gradually dwindle. It's the three-star that is printed around midnight and supplies London. If you look on the back page of *The Times* you can see the stars printed at the top."

At a quarter past nine a story was put on the board below the headline and the main picture. The byline read "From Robert Fisk, Beirut". The day that had started for him among the guns of south Lebanon had ended, just in time, neatly pasted on the front page of *The Times*.

To follow the front page on its way out to King's Cross station and the breakfast tables of the North was to take a trip back from the new technology to the printing machines and furnaces of the past. Slowly the microchip lost its dominion and we went back to a world that Caxton might have recognized, or that anyone who had spent his childhood playing with a John Bull printing set could understand.

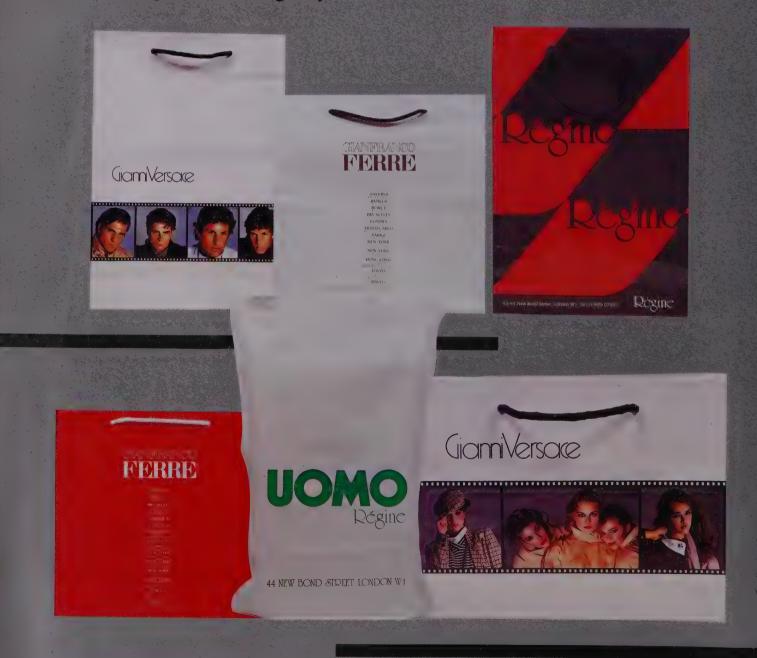
The pasted-up boards were photographed and polymer plates created on which the type was raised. The plate of the front page and I went down the stairs to a big, almost empty room where it was covered by a papier mâché sheet, curiously known as a "flong", and put into a press. From this process a papier mâché page – the "mat" – came into existence with the type indented. It was put in a dumb waiter and shot down to the foundry. "Don't touch anything down here," Bert Hart, a small grey-haired man



200 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS 10 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL FASHION

Two great birthdays rolled into one

The number one for men and women designer fashion group



in charge of a shop full of machinery and molten metal, told me. "If it isn't hot it'll be dirty." The "mat" carrying Robert Fisk's story was there cast into a curved metal plate, ammunition for the printing presses.

It was close on half past ten, just half an hour before the train's departure, and the presses were silent. Rick Catchpole looked at his watch, which he always keeps five minutes fast, and did his best not to worry. "We ought to get these machines rolling for half past if we're going to

catch the train.'

While he spoke the machines started to turn slowly, printing test copies which would not be sold. Printers stood about reading *The Times*, like old men in clubs, checking the strength of the ink. Then the machines hit full speed. Folded copies rushed upwards on perpetual escalators to be bundled and tied, to totter towards the vans on conveyor belts, and to make the dash through the empty streets.

The paper missed the 11 o'clock train. There was a shortage of trolleys at King's Cross.

On the editorial floor, at around 10.30, Irving Wardle had come in from the theatre to sit in the arts editor's office and write his usual thorough, sharp analysis. The evening's show was *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, a musical set in a motorway service station, by which Mr Wardle had been considerably entertained. His review would be printed around midnight in the three-star edition. At 11.30 he left for home.

The news room was quiet and almost empty. Robert Fisk hadn't added to his copy and had, apparently, also gone home. The GLC results were coming through: Ken Livingstone had a large majority on a 27 per cent poll. For the three-star this news would go on the front page. The Druze massacre would move to the back, and 13 murdered Muslims would soon be lost in the rising tide of world events.

The collection of photographs and drawings of the 11 previous occupants of the *Times* editorial chair, in the corridor outside the editor's office, does not yet contain one of Charles Cospatrick Douglas-Home. He was born in 1937 into a distinguished and eccentric family. One of his uncles, Sir Alec, was prime minister, the other, William, a well-known playwright. His father is known as "the Birdman" because of his great interest in ornithology. He has been a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Scots Greys, a bum in Canada, an ADC to Sir Evelyn Baring (now Lord Howick) when he was Governor of Kenya, and a cub reporter on the *Daily Express*. When Harold Wilson made the *Times* defence correspondent (now Lord Chalfont) a minister, Charlie Douglas-Home, somewhat to his surprise, stepped into the vacant position.

He wears suits that people round *The Times* say were inherited from his grandfather, the 13th earl, and he is not often seen to remove his jacket. "I can't imagine why Murdoch has chosen me," he has been quoted as saying about his appointment as editor in 1982. "I'm everything he's said to abhor—double-barrelled name, been to Eton, and not an obedient man."

We were sitting in the editor's office drinking a mixture known as Pelham's tea.

"I think *The Times* is like a keep." Mr Douglas-Home gives an impression of squareness, a square head on a square body, hair brushed forward like a solid Norman captain who might well know about keeps. "The walls round it can expand a long way, but the keep should be a



Think yourself lucky Chivas don't charge by the hour.





The end of the day's work, soon to be lost in the rising tide of world events

citadel with a long tradition of accuracy, authority and intellectuality. People see the castle with windows like slits and no evident sign of entry. We certainly want to bring more people in. We've raised the circulation from 292,000 in 1982 to 464,000. For the first time since our big stoppage we're 8,000 ahead of The Guardian. Since June '82 we've reduced the loss from 23 million to about 3 million, and all of that may not be a loss.

"Tell me about the leaders. Do you think

people read them?"

"Everyone reads the letters page and they look across and read some leaders. I feel the leader page is the part of the paper I've got to take responsibility for. I've got to be able to stand behind every leader and argue its corner."

"Has The Times moved to the right?"

"Yes. And for two reasons. In history The Times always had something to say. But in Casey's time [WF Casey was editor from 1948 to 1952] the leaders became very mandarin, setting out all sides of the questions with only the slightest indication of what the paper thought. I think the leaders have to be clear even if you disagree with them. So we support the Government but we attack it for not being radical enough. And we did needle them about rate-capping and the changes in local government."

"Don't you think a paper's most lively if it's

attacking the government in power?

"We have the page opposite the leaders for that. That's really Speaker's Corner. *The Times*'s middle page is open to Ken Livingstone, Eric Heffer and all-comers.'

"Do you think leaders have any effect?"

"Yes, I do. But I don't think ministers wet their knickers with terror if we criticize them, if that's what you mean.'

"How much influence does the proprietor

have on you and The Times's politics?

"You know, we never had a meeting at which he gave me a grand strategy for The Times. It just never happened. He's here once a month for a board meeting, but he's so busy he really hasn't got time to interfere. Of course, he fires off ideas like a Gatling gun, but I think he'd be horrified if he thought I'd put them all into practice. But let me tell you, I took Rupert with me to Israel and met a lot of people and on the plane back I was writing a long, long leader with all my views on what we'd seen. When I finished it he never even asked me what I'd written. That shows how little he interferes."

"Why do you think he chose you?"

"I honestly think it was faute de mieux. I was an essential stopgap. Whatever Harry [Evans] may say in his book—well, I've never read

the press is to obtain the ear-

liest and most correct intelli-

gence of events of the time and

instantly, by disclosing them, to make them the common

Sir William Haley, editor 1952-

1966, on The Times's rule of

anonymity: Signed writing in-

Iverach McDonald, in his auto-

property of the nation.

vites exhibitionism.

his book but people have told me about it - I'd resigned. So I was quite detached about it."

"But the leaders really reflect your own opinions?" I asked.

"They have to."

"What's the other reason for moving The

Times to the right?'

"Of course I wouldn't do it if I didn't believe in it. But it does make good business sense. If refugees come to us from The Daily Telegraph, they can feel they're in a friendly house, even though they may meet a few leftwingers and a bit of rough trade at dinner."

The phone rang and it was time for the 11.30 conference. A day and a night at *The Times*

was starting all over again.

"Are you coming to the meeting?" Charlie Douglas-Home asked me.

"No. No, I think I've done it all now." But I wondered what the Foreign desk had to offer the front page, and I left the building with something like regret.

I thought how little papers, like governments, control events. They are both created by the remorseless stream of daily news which assaults us, and often threatens to sweep us away. But accuracy, authority and intellectuality are not bad banners to hang out on the castle walls.

John hutimet.

President Lincoln to William Howard Russell, 1861: The London Times is one of the greatest powers in the world – in fact, I don't know anything which has more power, except perhaps the Mississippi.

William Howard Russell in 1894: I am disgusted with The Times. It now represents the worst side of the Saxon character – greed, selfishness, arrogance, intolerable conceit, chauvinism in excelsis.

Lord Clarendon, later Foreign Secretary, to Henry Reeve, a Clerk of Appeals to the Privy Council and Times leader writer, 1848: I don't care a straw what any other newspaper thinks or says. They are all regarded on the Continent as representing persons or cliques, but *The Times* is considered to be the exponent of what English public opinion is or will be and as it is thought that whatever public opinion determines with us, the Government ultimately does, an extraordinary and universal importance attaches to the views of The Times.

Lord Derby, Prime Minister, 1852: If...the press aspires to exercise the influence of statesmen, the press should remember that they are not free from the corresponding responsibility of statesmen. Times leader (by Robert Lowe) in reply: We cannot admit that its [a newspaper's] purpose is to share the labours of statesmanship ... The first duty of

biography A Man of The Times, on Sir William Haley: At conference the foreign news editor, Gerald N Norman, had some serious tidings to announce from Cairo. He added that most unfortunately, just before the news broke, our correspondent had left Cairo to spend some days in the desert. What news, demanded Haley, did the man expect to pick up in a desert? "He told me," said Norman, "that he planned to go to Pet-And what did he hope to achieve in Petra? "I gather that he had in mind a colour piece." "We know the colour of Petra," said Haley. "Get him back." him back.

William Cobbett, 1762-1835, politician and radical pam-phleteer: That cunning old trout, the ranting, canting, trimming old *Times*. The brazen old slut. The bloody and stupid old Times,

Claud Cockburn, in his book In Time of Trouble, on his first view of The Times in 1929: In the Foreign editorial room a sub-editor was translating a passage of Plato's Phaedo into Chinese for a bet. Another sub-editor had declared it could not be done without losing a certain nuance of the original. He was dictating the Greek passage aloud from memory.

Richard Cobden, leader of the Anti Corn Law League, 1850: I believe it has been said that one copy of *The Times* contains more useful information than the whole of the historical works of Thucydides.

Lord Palmerston, Prime Minister, to Queen Victoria, 1861: The proprietors and managers of *The Times* go to great expense in sending correspondents to all parts of the world where interesting events are taking place, and they employ a great many able and clever men to write articles upon all subjects which from time to time engage public attention; and as mankind takes more pleasure in reading criticism and fault-finding than praise, because it is soothing to individual vanity reader has become wiser than those about whom he reads, so

The Times, in order to maintain its circulation, criticises freely everybody and everything.

Albert, the Prince Consort: Soon there will not be room enough in the same country for the monarchy and The Times.

Marconi, in a letter to The Times on its 150th anniversary, 1935: After my successful attempt to send and receive wireless waves across the Atlantic...from the first The Times declared its belief in me and was swift and forceful to rebuke those who persisted in a policy of disparagement. Radio has made very great strides since 1901, and yet I often look back to those early days and remember with deep gratitude what a wonderful encouragement and support it was to me to know that a great newspaper like The Times had faith in me

Sir Samuel Hoare, Foreign Secretary, 1935: I am convinced that the paper's influence is greater today than it has ever been in my life-time...It is a great gain that in a world that changes every-thing, and changes most things for the worst, the sanity and common sense of a great paper should remain con-





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brakes.

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wheel. And, when it's about to lock, the brake pressure is eased for an instant. It works for each wheel independently.

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simultaneously.

the other three are doing.

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ABS also allows you to commit one of motoring's cardinal sins. That is, steer

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THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE

ewspapers, perhaps because few of them achieve it, like longevity. As a result centenaries and bicentenaries are sometimes celebrated with a slightly tenuous claim to continuity of identity. This is not true of *The Times*. It has throughout been a daily (always excluding Sundays), and its format, up to 1966, when news first appeared on the front page, bore a recognizable affinity to that of the first years.

The direct descendants of its founder, publisher and first editor, John Walter, remained as controlling proprietors until 1908, when Northcliffe moved in; and as partners in the enterprise for another 58 years, until the arrival of Roy Thomson, when John Walter IV, aged 93, relinquished his shareholding. (The Walters were almost unique among newspaper proprietors in spanning nearly 200 years while hardly seeking

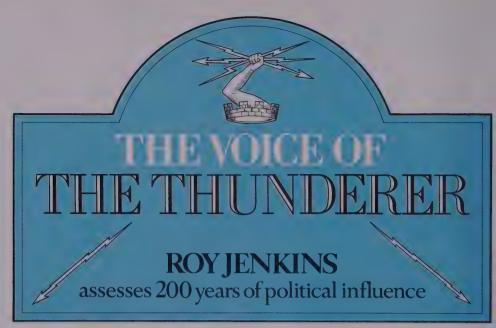
and never acquiring a peerage.)

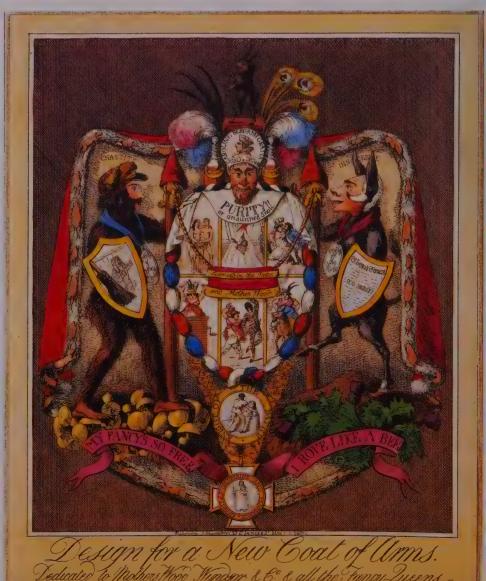
In addition the terms of editors, with a few exceptions, have been long. As a result there have been remarkably few of them. Six covered the 124 years from 1817 to 1941. There was a little more instability at either end, but 15 made up the whole of the apostolic succession, exactly the same as the number of Popes over the period, a few more than the number of British monarchs but less than half the number of British prime ministers and little more than a third the number of American presidents.

Has the influence been commensurate with the longevity? First it must be said that while there have certainly been journals which have from time to time exercised more political influence than *The Times* (the *Morning Chronicle* in the early years of the 19th century, perhaps the *Westminster Gazette* in its heyday, *The Daily Telegraph* at the time of the Abdication, arguably the *Daily Mirror* at its Cudlipp/King political peak), there has been no paper which has come within miles of rivalling *The Times* over the 200-year

stretch as a whole. Apart from other considerations there are very few papers which have been there for any comparable period. The Observer, which has benefited from two notable editorships this century, was founded in 1791, but has never been a daily and went through many 19th-century mutations. The Morning Post was there before The Times and preserved a continuous high Tory identity but subsided into the arms of The Daily Telegraph in 1937. The rest of The Times's London contemporaries of 1785 are long since dead. Its contemporaries of today are relative upstarts: the oldest are The Guardian, founded in 1821, but only a daily since 1855, The Daily Telegraph, which began in 1855, and the Daily Mail, which inaugurated the era of mass circulation in 1896.

The influence of The Times must essentially be judged from the accession to the editorial chair of Thomas Barnes in 1817. Before then it was settling down. In the late 18th century it was an information sheet, the lesser offshoot of a printing business. By 1795 John Walter I was tired of his enterprise and handed over first to his elder son, William, who had more literary taste than journalistic flair, and then in 1803 to his second son, John Walter II, who made the paper but fractured his relations with his father. John Walter I wanted to be a printer to the Government and to the aristocracy. John Walter II wanted to run something approaching a modern newspaper. The circulation when he took over was about 1,700 copies, having been up to nearly 3,000 in the 1790s. The circulation of all others, including the influential Morning Chronicle, was still lower,





however. Newspaper prices were formidable. The Times opened at $2\frac{1}{2}$ d and quickly went to 3d, the equivalent of nearly £1 today. By the time of his death in 1847 nearly 50,000 copies were sold. In mid-century, just before the full repeal of newspaper taxes, The Times was the nearest paper to approach a mass daily. The Daily Telegraph, within a few days of its own launch, paid it a somewhat convoluted tribute: "The circulation of the Daily Telegraph", it announced, "exceeds that of any London morning newspaper, with the exception of The Times."

More important, however, was that John Walter II first rejected political subsidies and lived successfully without them both during his own editorship from 1803 to 1810 and during his joint editorship of the next five years with John Stoddart, a barrister and Hazlitt's brother-in-law; and that he then got bored with exercising control from the proprietor's chair and withdrew to Wokingham to become a Berkshire country gentleman, and subsequently MP for the county, leaving Thomas Barnes with the elbow room to become the first independent editor.

Barnes was only 32 when he was appointed. It was not his youth which made him exceptional. *Times* editors have often been young when they started. Of his notable successors, Delane and Buckle started at 23 and 29, and Dawson and Rees-Mogg at '38. (They have also shown a regrettable tendency to die young, mostly while still in office.)

Barnes was the son of a Kent solicitor,

educated at Christ's Hospital and Pembroke College, Cambridge, of high intellectual gifts, who as a young man lived in the literary society of Leigh Hunt, Lamb and Hazlitt. He came to editorship by way of theatre criticism and parliamentary sketch writing.

He was considered a very advanced liberal at this time, and always wrote, and encouraged others to write, in a fairly rough tone. "Put a little devil into it" was one of his prescripts for his own and other people's writing. He was a full editor not merely by virtue of his independence of his proprietor but also because he orchestrated the whole paper. Leigh Hunt considered him to have placed it "beyond the range of competition not more by the ability of his own articles than by the unity of tone and sentiment which he knew how to impart to the publication as a whole".

Barnes supported Catholic emancipation and the Great Reform Bill, was generally favourable to the Grey administration, and was particularly close to the Lord Chancellor, Brougham. In 1834 he did a great switch of sides, and in so doing gave a most remarkable demonstration of the power of the instrument he had partly created. He quarrelled with the Whigs and provoked the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Althorp) into writing to Brougham a subsequently notorious letter requesting an urgent meeting to discuss "whether we should declare open war with *The Times* or attempt to make peace".

Months later, when William IV effectively dismissed Melbourne, and Peel was being hurriedly summoned back from Rome (still taking almost exactly as long as Caesar would have done), Barnes attempted to lay down with Lyndhurst, the new Lord Chancellor, and (of all people) the Duke of Wellington, who were temporarily in charge in London, the terms on which he would support a Conservative government. They were: no going back on the Reform Bill or on other measures, such as the Tithe Act and the Corporations Act, already voted by the House of Commons, and a continuity of foreign policy. What is still more remarkable is that they were substantially accepted. The brief first Peel Government came into being, the Tamworth Manifesto was issued, and the way was paved for the creation of a Conservatism which could live with the railway age and the 19th-century middle class. "Why," Lyndhurst reportedly said to Greville, "Barnes is the most powerful man in the country."

Lyndhurst further endorsed Barnes's importance by giving him a dinner party. This was regarded as being almost the most remarkable of

The sensational trial of Queen Caroline in 1820, after the accession of her husband George IV, doubled the circulation of The Times, which backed her struggle to reclaim her rights. Popular opinion caused the Government to abandon its attempts to dissolve the marriage and grant her an annuity, but the Queen and The Times were much pilloried. Left: a satirical coat of arms showing Henry Brougham, her lawyer, with The Times on his shield, and her lover as a bear. Below: after the trial, in May 1821, the Queen with The Times among her supporters



this entire series of events, for Barnes rarely went into society and Lord Chancellors or other great officers of state did not habitually entertain journalists. Fortunately, perhaps, ladies were not included, for Barnes remained faithful to his early bohemianism by not being married to his "wife", who looked to Disraeli like "a lady in a pantomime".

However, he maintained a considerable style of life, first in Great Surrey Street, over Blackfriars Bridge, and then, after his salary had been raised to the considerable sum of £2,000 (augmented by a 1/16th share in what he had made a very profitable enterprise), in a fine house in Soho Square. There he indulged his high taste for wine and food, was much called upon by politicians, and died in May 1841. "The Thunderer" had achieved its soubriquet under his reign.

John Thadeus Delane, the son of WFA Delane, manager of *The Times*, had been with the paper for about a year, mainly on parliamentary reports, when he succeeded Barnes. He was appointed what can perhaps best be described as "lieutenant editor". John Walter II moved back to take substantial responsibility and Delane did not assume Barnes's full authority until that chief

proprietor's death in 1847.

Delane was more of an operator, less of a scholar than Barnes. He was more social, dined out a good deal with the grand, instead of waiting for them to call upon him, and quite often stayed with them in the country, where he could indulge his passion for hunting. In London, however, he worked immensely hard, never lived more than a mile away from Printing House Square, and habitually stayed in the office until five in the morning. The Times was the whole of his life in a way that it was not with Barnes. The Dictionary of National Biography offers some pointed and not wholly expected comments: "Though never erudite, Delane was very quick in mastering anything which he took in hand... He was not a finished scholar; he was not as brilliant as Barnes; he hardly ever wrote anything except reports and letters, both of which he wrote very well... He saw 13 administrations rise and fall... he met all statesmen on equal terms... Lord Palmerston, whom he resembled in temperament, was the statesman he liked best, Lord Aberdeen was the one he most respected.'

In the Barchester novels Trollope portrays Delane under the name of Tom Towers, editor of the Jupitor, in terms which are more a tribute to his influence and grandeur than to his judgement on humanity. In The Warden (1855) he played some considerable part in driving the good Mr Harding out of his somewhat archaic benefice. In Barchester Towers (1857) he is an occasional ally of the oleaginous and scheming Reverend Obadiah Slope. But it is in Framley Parsonage (1861) that he reaches his apogee. He appears at an evening party given by Miss Dunstable, the patent medicine heiress, who was none the less in the centre of fashionable society and a lady who combined astringent comment with a heart of gold: "That the two great ones of the earth were Tom Towers and the Duke of Omnium need

hardly be expressed in words."

The paper was tolerably disposed towards the great Peel government and particularly towards its foreign policy, because it was conducted by Aberdeen, but was uncharacteristically detached on the great mid-century issue of the Corn Laws. Lord John Russell was a man Delane could never abide (perhaps with justification) and his 1846-52 administration was therefore treated coolly, even while Palmerston was Foreign

Secretary, for Delane's love affair with his alter ego (if the DNB is to be believed) did not begin until about 1857. When the Russell Government fell in early 1852 as a result of Palmerston's "tit-for-tat with Johnnie Russell" and the first of the several brief Derby-Disraeli administrations came in, Delane was much courted by Disraeli. But the courtship was not very successful. When Disraeli led his Government to defeat in the House of Commons by proclaiming in a phrase more memorable than sensible, that "England does not love coalitions", The Times answered that "Nothing suits the people to be governed and the measures to be passed so well as a good coalition." It quickly got what it wanted, in the form of one headed by Aberdeen. And it received its reward by being able to publish exclusively on Christmas Day, 1852, a full list of the unannounced Cabinet appointments, a tribute as much to the regularity of The Times's 19thcentury publication as to the quality of its sources.

Its influence, however, was set immensely high. Cobden claimed it never entered his house, but Clarendon in 1853, while complaining that "I can't understand why it should be considered the organ of the Government" and expostulating that "The ways of *The Times* are inscrutable", nevertheless reluctantly recorded that "As its circulation is enormous and its influence abroad is very great a Government must take its support on the terms it chooses to put it." Abraham Lincoln's tribute was still more fulsome but was not reciprocated, for *The Times* thought the Gettysburg Address made the dedication ceremony "ludicrous".

In the years that followed *The Times* became disillusioned with Aberdeen because of his lack of bellicosity in the approach to the Crimean War, and lack of vigour in its conduct. The war correspondent William Howard Russell, who there made his reputation, denounced the inefficiencies of supply and generalship and played a significant role in the replacement of Aberdeen by Palmerston in 1855. *The Times*, however, took a year or two to adjust to its new loyalty. Delane did not become an habitué of Broadlands or Cambridge House until the end of the decade,

and amongst the first acts of the new government was one which was thought to be highly inimical to the interests of *The Times*. This was the abolition of the newspaper tax.

The change meant much cheaper newspapers and in the possibly exaggerated language of John Bright set The Times "howling, and splashing about like a harpooned whale". It was assumed that the move would damage the oligopoly, with The Times as clear market leader, that a few established journals enjoyed. This was true to the extent that The Times fairly quickly lost, and never regained, its position as the paper of greatest circulation. By 1861 The Daily Telegraph was selling about 140,000 against The Times's regular 65,000. The abolition of the tax also led to a substantial, but not permanent, shift in the balance between the London and the provincial press. Before it there was little of substance published in England outside the capital. By 1864 the circulation of the provincials was nearly twice that of the London papers.

But the change did not damage the influence of *The Times*, or its profitability, and increased its circulation in absolute terms. Its 1861 figure was about a third up on that of a few years before and concealed occasional surges: 89,000 on the day after the Prince Consort's death and 86,000 when it published a nine-column obituary

of Palmerston

The gain in circulation was far from being worth the loss of Palmerston. *The Times* had not been his client, but Delane had certainly done well out of the connection. Palmerston had given him information, a government and a statesman he could mostly support with a good conscience,

During 1834, while Melbourne was Prime Minister, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Chancellor and founder of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, pushed through the Lords the draconian Poor Law Bill. He was vigorously opposed by The Times. But the victory of Brougham (depicted below as 'Guy Vaux') was short-lived. His eccentricity contributed to William IV's decision to dismiss Melbourne, and Brougham fell with him





In July 1835, Lord Brougham chaired a public meeting to press for a reduction in the stamp duty on newspapers, the 'tax on knowledge', from 4d to 1d. He and fellow Whigs, who viewed The Times as a hostile monopoly, intended to break its power by stimulating cheaper competition (above), though other newspapers felt equally threatened. The tax was reduced on September 15, 1836 but The Times's circulation continued to increase

and had even offered him the permanent undersecretaryship of the War Office in 1861 when he heard that his eyes were failing through too much night work. Now Delane was left without a lodestar. Lord John Russell, who succeeded, was as unattractive to him as he had been 20 years before. Gladstone had not hitherto been much of a favourite in Printing House Square. And the efforts of the third and last short Derby-Disraeli Government to get Delane on their side proved as abortive as on the previous occasions. The paper, largely due to the influence of Robert Lowe, MP for Calne, a leader writer for 15 years, was also cool in its approach to the Second Reform Bill, in marked contrast to its "thundering" in 1831, and somewhat to the annovance of John Walter III.

The Times reconciled itself both to reform and to Gladstone. It supported him with an unwonted partisanship, both in 1868, when he won, and in 1874, when he lost. Delane, who always had exceptional gifts of seeing what was likely to happen, correctly and exceptionally foresaw the result of the Franco-Prussian War. Yet throughout the 12 years from Palmerston's death in 1865 to Delane's retirement there is a distinct sense of a slowly declining sun. Even the circulation, often the last index to respond to a decline of quality, dropped below 60,000 by the turn of the decade. Despite the offer of a pension of £2,000, munificent by the standards of the age, Walter had to assert himself in 1877 to get Delane out and Thomas Chenery in. "But who will look after the social side of the business?" Disraeli asked when he heard of the change.

Chenery was the least successful of *The Times*'s 19th-century editors. He was, however,

the first of a series of gentlemen scholars to occupy the editorial chair. He was the first editor to be an Etonian (there have been two subsequent ones). He was a graduate of Gonville and Ĉaius College, Cambridge, and since 1868 had been Professor of Arabic at Oxford while continuing his long-standing leader-writing role on the paper. He was 54 when appointed, but this long period of waiting did not give him longevity. True in this respect to the tradition of Barnes and Delane, he was burnt out before he was 60. His years were notable mainly for the employment of the remarkable Blowitz to cover the Congress of Berlin in 1878, and for swinging the paper, which had been critical of the demagoguery of the Midlothian campaign, into a mildly pro-Gladstone position for the beginning of his second administration in 1880

George Buckle, with two or three years' experience in Printing House Square, succeeded in 1884 at the age of 29. He was the son of a cathedral-close clergyman with strong academic connections. He went to Winchester and New College, and was a Fellow of All Souls, thus beginning a link between *The Times* and that peculiar Oxford institution which was to last, with a short break, until Geoffrey Dawson's retirement as editor nearly 60 years later.

Buckle's good fortune were his fine late 19th-century intellectual good looks (he was the first handsome editor of *The Times*), and his health, which enabled him again to break another pattern, by surviving for 22 years after a 28-year editorship – to write the last three-and-a-half volumes of the six-volume biography of Disraeli which Moneypenny had begun and to edit Queen Victoria's letters. His misfortune was that he presided over a paper with falling circulation and falling profitability which met a journalistic disaster early in his editorship and a drastic change of proprietorship near its end.

The circulation loss was not huge, but enough to be mildly depressing. The journalistic disaster, which was much worse, was the publication of forged letters allegedly written by the Irish Nationalist leader Charles Stewart Parnell.

The débâcle did The Times great damage, both material and moral. Buckle and MacDonald, the manager, who was dead within the year, offered their resignations, but John Walter III, whose own responsibility was equally great, refused them. The costs, falling upon the newspaper and the Walter family, of the 129-day Special Commission of inquiry exceeded £200,000 (the equivalent of £6m or £7m at today's values), and the blow to its prestige was at least as great. "Something of the awe of holy writ, which from the days of Barnes had clung about its columns, now faded away" is the judgement of the official History of The Times.

Oddly perhaps, the principal whose equanimity best survived the Parnell case was Buckle. He was never an editor of the force of Barnes or Delane but there was no question of his spending a quarter of a century as a lame duck. There was a considerable, and perhaps necessary, touch of self-righteousness about him. Not long after the débâcle he was rebuking the Leader of the House of Commons (WH Smith) for criticism of The Times, and he continued to exercise substantial influence throughout the long years of Conservative hegemony. He supported both the imperialism and protectionism of Joseph Chamberlain, provided he was not too disruptive within the Unionist Party, while carrying on a mild flirtation with Rosebery and his Liberal Imperialist associates. He was hostile to Campbell-Bannerman and not much more enthusiastic about Asquith. He kept up a good, self-confident right-of-centre "non-partisanship". His humiliations were that by 1908, when Lord Northcliffe's Daily Mail was selling nearly two million, an unheard of circulation for any newspaper when Buckle became editor, The Times was down to 38,000 and that, partly as a result, the paper was sold, to Northcliffe, so completely over his head that he was dependent on Observer paragraphs for news of what was going on.

Alfred Harmsworth, made a baronet one year and a baron the next by the fastidious Balfour, well before being made a viscount by the less fastidious Lloyd George, was a bizarre man, even by the high standards set by generations of newspaper proprietors. He was the eldest of 14 children of an Irish barrister and compensated for this profusion of siblings by producing no heirs: he was the only Northcliffe.

His father omitted to educate him. At the age of 17 he was a reporter in Coventry. Throughout his life he regretted that he had not been at Oxford "for one year". That year, he thought, would have given him "poise". Longer would have been a waste of time. He was at least half a genius and he was at least half not a vulgarian. More important, he was the greatest journalistic innovator of the past 100 years. He was, of course, a megalomaniac who, unlike most people to whom that label is loosely applied, did literally go mad before he died at the age of 57.

He was a character of operatic quality and he acquired control of *The Times*, to which role a few decades earlier a man of his stamp would have been considered as likely an aspirant as Bradlaugh to become Archbishop of Canterbury, by methods rich in farce and melodrama. His rival was C Arthur Pearson (no connection of the Pearsons who became Cowdray), the owner of the *Daily Express* and the *Standard*, and at stages in the battle Northcliffe sent him telegrams of congratulations like a tenor singing one message across the stage and another to the audience. He

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embellished the farce by retiring for most of the period of negotiation to a hotel in Boulogne, to and from which communications passed in code, he himself having assumed the rather grand name of Atlantic, while his chief man of business, who had the unreassuring real name of Kennedy Jones, was Alberta. Walter was Manitoba. Buckle did not qualify even for a town, let alone an

ocean or a province.

Whatever the methods, Northcliffe had secured control of *The Times* by March, 1908, although this fact did not become public knowledge until several months later. There was an element of apprehension as well as fascination and impatience in his proprietorial approach to the queen of British journalism. There were jibes that it was going to be merely the threepenny edition of the *Daily Mail*. In time, however, Northcliffe scotched that by reducing its price to Id (and even playing with ½d), so that it became as cheap as its new stablemate.

But it was not as popular. The Daily Mail sold 50 times as many copies as The Times. If he had had to send one to the abattoir there is no doubt which Northcliffe would have chosen. But he did not have to choose. He lived on the Daily Mail. He half admired and half despised The Times. How could a newspaper be regarded as a serious enterprise when most of its senior staff never used the telephone, and the editor opened all letters submitted for publication with his own

thumb? Before Northcliffe had thought of reducing the price the former chief proprietor suddenly asked him what he would do with the paper. "I should make it worth threepence, Mr Walter" was his rather good reply.

Buckle was not Northcliffe's man. He did. however, survive for more than four years before being replaced by Geoffrey Robinson (the only man to occupy the editorial chair twice and who made the story more complicated by doing so under different names, changing from Robinson to Dawson in order to inherit from an aunt a substantial landed property in Yorkshire). Although Buckle's going, partly because it closely followed the deaths of Moberly Bell, the longserving manager, and Valentine Chirol, head of the foreign department, marked a considerable clearing out of the old gang, Robinson came from a roughly similar stable. He was, indeed, not only Northcliffe's but also Buckle's choice as successor, although Buckle did not welcome the speed with which he achieved the chair.

He had been at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford, was a fellow of All Souls, and had been Lord Milner's private secretary in South Africa. He was 38 when he became editor and had been on the staff of *The Times* for 18 months. His first stint as editor lasted 6½ years until he in turn, having had a moderately rough ride, fell foul of Northcliffe. It embraced the whole of the First World War, a period of great press influence,

In 1829 The Times helped to remove restrictive legislation surrounding Roman Catholics, particularly their disqualification from sitting in Parliament. It actively supported Wellington, the Prime Minister, in introducing the Catholic Emancipation Bill following the embarrassing victory of the Catholic Association leader, Daniel O'Connell, at an election in Co. Clare. Above: opposition to the birth of the Act, which came into force in April

partly because the House of Commons, then as now almost totally geared to a two-party system, was thrown into limbo by coalition government.

The Times was central to this period of journalistic politics, but to an extent that had not been seen since the advent of Barnes it was The Times of the proprietor rather than The Times of the editor which called the game. This was largely because of the extraordinary symbiotic relationship between Northcliffe and Lloyd George. Their periods of high power almost exactly coincided. Lloyd George became Chancellor of the Exchequer in April, 1908, and was driven out of the premiership in October, 1922. Northcliffe acquired The Times in March, 1908, and died in August, 1922. They both had daemonic energy, rootlessness, and in Keynes's words about Lloyd George, "that flavour of final purposelessness, inner irresponsibility, existence outside or away from our Saxon good or evil, mixed with

200 YEARS AGO TODAY SOMEONE STARTED A NEWSPAPER.





On May 28, 1903, DD Braham, The Times's man in St Petersburg, was expelled after writing on the revolutionary upsurge in Russia and the horrific anti-Semitic pogroms. Deeply affronted, The Times continued to attack Russia, which was on the brink of war with Britain's ally, Japan. Three years later Russia sought to repair the rift and accepted a new man, Robert Wilton



Vicky's comment on a controversy which arose when The Times ran as its lead story of June 1, 1959 a political essay by David Wood speculating that Selwyn Lloyd (right), retained as Foreign Secretary by Harold Macmillan (left), would not continue long in the post. The story came from Macmillan himself

cunning remorselessness (and) love of power" This did not mean that they liked each other. Lloyd George told Beaverbrook in November, 1916, he would "as soon go for a sunny evening stroll around Walton Heath with a grasshopper as try and work with Northcliffe' and Northcliffe had little sooner helped to make Lloyd George Prime Minister than he was talking about destroying him. Each deserved the other. and there was considerable mutual fascination.

The Times, through its military correspondent's reporting of shell shortage in France, played a substantial role in the forcing of the 1915 Coalition. But the apogee of its influence in wartime political intrigue was probably reached during the manoeuvrings of December, 1916, which led to the replacement of Asquith by Lloyd George. Its main leader of Monday, December 4 made it publicly clear to Asquith that the concordat he had reached with Lloyd George was, and would be interpreted as being, a humiliation of himself. Accordingly he withdrew from it, overplayed his hand, and ejected himself from 10 Downing Street after 8½ years' tenancy. The article was thought to be Lloyd George-inspired. To some extent it was. Northcliffe had been flitting heavily between the pillars of the Whitehall scenery. It had, however, been written by Robinson, mostly at Cliveden, but titivated after a Sunday evening dinner with Northcliffe.

This was the high point of their collaboration. Their relationship was sometimes eased by Northcliffe's absences in America, but otherwise they grew increasingly incompatible. Dawson (as he had then become) was sacked three months after the armistice and replaced by Henry Wickham Steed. In contrast with Dawson, an Empire-orientated, conventional English scholar squire, there was a touch of the continental adventurer about Steed, which made him more acceptable to Northcliffe. He had been on the foreign staff of The Times for 20 years, but the combination of his education (Sudbury Grammar School and the Universities of Jena, Berlin and Paris), his elegant beard, and his involvement with the intricacies of Balkan politics, set

him a little apart. His greatest qualification, however, was that he shared what had become Northcliffe's detestation of Lloyd George. The paper survived the next 3½ years under this not altogether reassuring partnership better than

might have been expected. JL Garvin of The

Observer at this time considered it "far and away

the best morning paper" The death of Northcliffe was a relief to almost everybody, including Steed, who fell soon after him. The Times moved curiously but not causally in step with British politics. It provides perhaps the best evidence of its position as a national journal. In Lloyd George's time it was febrile. Coincidentally with his fall it moved into a period of Baldwinesque calm. The ownership gap left by Northcliffe was filled by the junior branch of the Astor family, Major (later Colonel) JJ Astor, later still Lord Astor of Hever, providing most of the money and moving into a partnership with a revived John Walter IV. Dawson was brought back as editor and stayed for another 19 years, until 1941. Together with John Reith of the



-to S-t-sb-ry and B-if-r). "Now then, what are you appead of? You've got your weapon; use it. Or, if you'de catch it from ME!"

The Times believed that the National League, formed by Charles Stewart Parnell, was responsible for widespread terrorism and intimidation in Ireland. In a leader of July 20, 1887 (above), the paper urged the Prime Minister, Lord Salisbury, and Arthur Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, to use the new Ireland Crimes Act to proclaim the League a 'dangerous association'



BBC and Archbishop Lang of Canterbury, Dawson of *The Times* formed a tripod of slightly self-righteous respectability which sustained the British establishment of the inter-war years.

The Times's semi-official position, never exactly sought, sometimes embarrassing both to the Government and to the paper but sometimes valuable too, particularly for the prestige which it gave its correspondents abroad, was strengthened during the period. So was the preeminence of some of its features, most notably the correspondence columns. In 1917 it had rejected (by decision of Dawson, not, as was commonly thought, Northcliffe) one of the most resonant, if to some eves infamous, letters to the editor in British political history, the Lansdowne "peace letter", and The Daily Telegraph had got it instead. But in the postwar period this was compensated for by Baldwin's "FST letter" (he was Financial Secretary to the Treasury at the time and used the initials to achieve at least the appearance of anonymity), in which he announced that he was giving a fifth of his fortune to help reduce the national debt, and by two extraordinary effusions from Bonar Law. In one he sounded the death-knell of Lloyd George's Coalition. In the other, written during his brief period as Prime Minister, he castigated under the curious pseudonym of "Colonial" the American debt settlement his Chancellor had just negotiated.

Dawson was always an appeaser, in the better as well as the worse sense of the word. Therefore he liked Baldwin's general approach to politics, and Baldwin in turn was always close to him. On a crucial morning in August, 1931, having reluctantly returned to London from Aixles-Bains to deal with the crisis which led to the formation of the National Government, Baldwin was "lost" for several hours. He had, in fact, slipped away to consult his trusted friend Dawson. As a result he missed a summons to see the King before Herbert Samuel did so, and plans for a coalition gathered almost irresistible momentum. By the time he had his own audience Baldwin, against his better judgement, could only

acquiesce. British politics were distorted for a decade, and the new balance which Baldwin had devoted the Twenties to achieving was seriously upset. The incident was a tribute to the influence of Dawson, but not an indication that a politician is always best employed in calling on the editor of *The Times*.

The paper was not alone in its support of Chamberlain's foreign policy. It did, however, carry its enthusiasm beyond the call of duty. For Christmas, 1938, it offered its readers the opportunity to buy cards showing the Prime Minister waving from the balcony of Buckingham Palace on his return from Munich. It opposed Churchill's inclusion in the Government as late as July, 1939. And it had the power, unlike most of its contemporaries, to help make policy as well as merely to comment upon it. The most famous (or notorious) example was the leader of September 7, 1938, which first advocated the handing over of the Sudetenland to Germany. The Foreign Office disowned it to the Czech Government, but there is evidence that the article had been inspired by Halifax, the Foreign Secretary. His confact with Dawson was intimate and continuous.

When appeasement collapsed, war came, and the Chamberlain Government tottered towards its fall, *The Times* inevitably suffered somewhat for its over-commitment. Stephen Koss in his *Rise and Fall of the Political Press in Britain* makes a fine distinction: "Its influence had declined but not yet its reputation." The period of *The Times*'s being almost a great Department of State and its editor almost an honorary member of the Cabinet was over, and not merely for Dawson's day.

His long day came to an end on October 1, 1941. The *History*'s "obituary" says: "He gave lifelong adherence to his chosen leaders, above all Milner, Baldwin, Chamberlain and Halifax." It was not an eclectic choice of friends. In particular it left his successor, who had been his coadjudicator for the previous 14 years, somewhat isolated from the War Coalition, and indeed the Churchillian Conservative Party.



The Times criticized the administration of the New Poor Law by Peel's Home Secretary, Sir James Graham, and in 1844 WB Ferrand, MP for Knaresborough, made personal attacks on Graham. Above: Ferrand as the puppet of The Times, with Peel and Graham as the victims

This successor was RM Barrington-Ward. He was the son of a clergyman, educated at Westminster and Balliol. He was part of the warp and woof of *The Times*. He had first joined its staff in 1913 at the age of 22. He spent eight years away at *The Observer*. That and the First World War apart, the paper had been his whole life. He had refused the director-generalship of the BBC in 1938. Yet, although very much an inside appointment, he was an editor of note. Some thought that had he succeeded 10 years earlier he would have avoided the excesses of the late Dawson period. He never sought to detach himself from them, but as editor he moved the paper firmly to the left.

He was enthusiastic about Beveridge and other plans for postwar reconstruction. He believed in 1942 that Cripps might easily become prime minister within a short time. He employed EH Carr to write leaders advocating the closest postwar Anglo-Russian partnership. True to this view he opposed the British Government's resistance to the Greek left-wing revolutionary movement at the end of 1944, and infuriated Churchill by so doing. To loud Conservative cheers, the Prime Minister, with the editor sitting prominently in the gallery, delivered a virulent parliamentary attack upon *The Times* in January, 1945. Barrington-Ward was shaken but undeflected. His proprietors, Astor, then MP for Dover, and Walter, were embarrassed but gentlemanly. He was denounced by a less gentlemanly Conservative MP (Sir Herbert Williams) for producing "the 3d edition", this time not of the *Daily Mail* but "of the *Daily Worker*".

When the Attlee Government came in, The Times under Barrington-Ward accepted it as a natural government for Britain in the epoch. His criticism was sometimes sharp but basically friendly. His reward was scant. He was excoriated by many Conservatives, and called in and denounced by Ernest Bevin for the "spineless" and "jellyfish" attitude of The Times towards Russia. It was neither for him nor against him, Bevin typically complained. "Why should it be?"



Thomas Barnes 1817-1841



John Thadeus Delane 1841-1877



Thomas Chenery 1877-1884



George Earle Buckle 1884-1912



Geoffrey Dawson 1912-1919 and 1922-1941



Henry Wickham Steed 1919-1922



Robin Barrington-Ward 1941-1948



William Francis Casey 1948-1952



Sir William Haley 1952-1966



William Rees-Mogg

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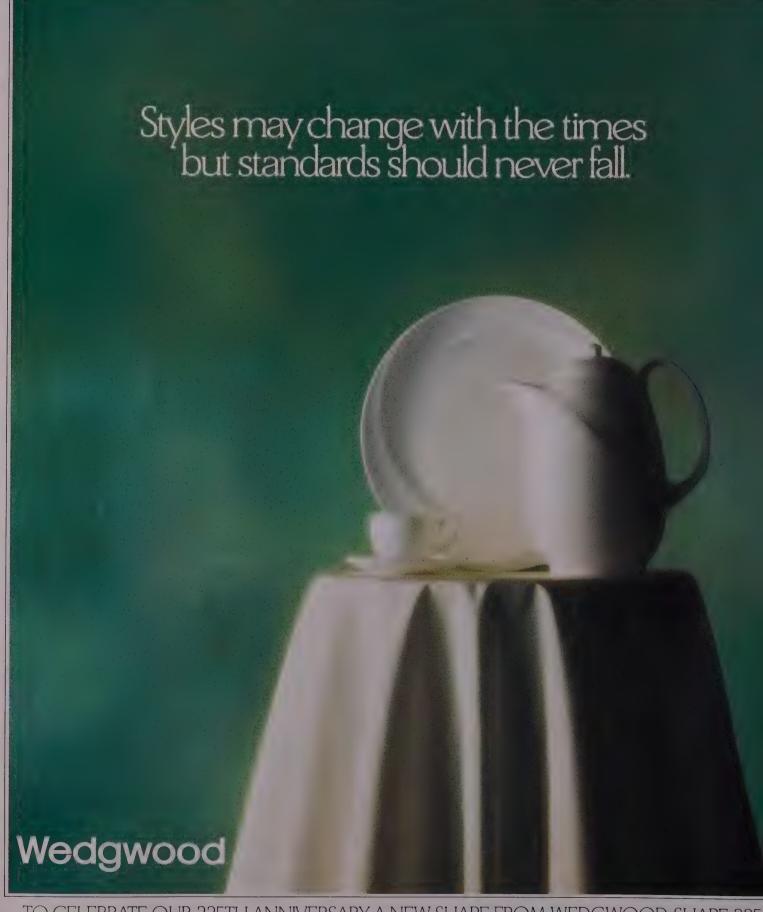
Ithink I could use your talents so please get in touch with me now.

Name

Company

Addres

Telephone



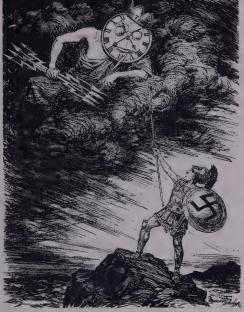
On August 19, 1937, Germany expelled Norman Ebbutt, The Times's prolific Berlin correspondent, in retaliation for Britain's expulsion of three German newsmen. Right: The Times replied by pointedly continuing to print despatches written by his assistant, which appeared as being 'From Our Correspondent'

Barrington-Ward very reasonably retorted, but to his diary, not to Bevin. Again he was shocked rather than influenced. Those who saw him when he returned to Printing House Square thought that he looked as though he had been in a nasty traffic accident. Bevin could be a fairly roughly-driven articulated lorry. And Barrington-Ward was a natural St Sebastian of journalism. He carried the arrows without much complaint. But they hurt a great deal. And they may even have helped to kill him, in 1948, at the typically early *Times* age of 56.

His successor, William Casey, was both the oldest and the most obvious stop-gap to be appointed to the *Times* chair. He was Anglo-Irish and from a background not dissimilar to that of Northcliffe. But he had been to Trinity College, Dublin, and he was a calm man. At first it was thought that he might merely be there for a year. In fact he lasted five, and was rather a good editor

n a quiet way.

Then came Sir William Haley, the first editor to be born (just) in the 20th century, the first since 1803 not to have been to a university, the only one to arrive with a title and perhaps the last to believe intermittently that he commanded the thunderbolts of Zeus. His most famous leader was entitled 'It is a Moral Issue', and was a rather holier-than-thou lecture on the Profumo scandal



of 1963 and the climate out of which it had sprung. Previously he had been critical of the Suez adventure, although not as vehemently so as *The Observer, The Manchester Guardian* or the *Daily Mirror*, had presided very uneasily over the successful but unappetizing "Top People Take *The Times*" advertising campaign, had been affronted by the Lady Chatterley verdict, had urged a Conservative victory but an upsurge of Liberal votes in the general election of 1964 and

had put news on the front page in May, 1966. He was a successful but reluctant editor of transition.

His reign of 14 years came to a voluntary end together with the withdrawal of the Astors from principal proprietorship. A successful new proprietor (from the point of view of the paper if not of his family fortune) was found in the shape of Lord Thomson of Fleet, and William Rees-Mogg became the best leader-writing editor since Barnes. Thomson's disadvantage was that he provided no dynasty of loss-absorbers. He and his son lasted barely as long as Northcliffe. Of the paper since then it is impossible to write with perspective or objectivity. Mr Harold Evans has written his own pièce justificative after the briefest editorship in the history of the paper. Mr Rupert Murdoch and Mr Charles Douglas-Home are too contemporary to appraise, at any rate in their own columns.

They are the heirs to a long but fluctuating tradition, which mostly worked best when editors were strong and proprietors were quiescent. This is not an invariable rule. Buckle, left entirely to himself, might have run the paper quietly into the sand. Dawson might have benefited from some proprietorial arm-jogging. *The Times* has no record of impeccability. Other newspapers have quite frequently been better. But none has on average been so good for so long.

Rasin

Sherlock Holmes to Dr Watson: There is as much difference to my eyes between the leaded Bourgeois type of a Times article and the slovenly print of an evening halfpenny paper as there could be between your Negro and your Eskimo.

John Thadeus Delane on editing The Times, c. 1847: There is nothing so entirely wonderful to anybody who has to work a newspaper as the way in which the public ignore all its difficulties... Why, the list last night presented 72 columns, of which 70 were thoroughly good matter, and these had to be reduced to 48 by a process compared with which that little business of Herod's was a joke. At the same time

the Duke of Sutherland thinks it very hard I can't put in two columns about his steam plough and fifty correspondents demand, each as a matter of justice, that their letters shall be inserted. All this while the Spectator complains every week that the debates are not at sufficient length and MacDonald that we never get in any advertisements.

H. Wace, Dean of Canterbury, 1908, on Delane: He maintained an absolute mastery of the whole of the paper in all its details. He "read", in the press sense of the word, everything which was to appear in the paper next morning, and edited it so as to ensure that the whole was in harmony and was fitted to produce one clear

impression on the public mind... This method of editing was infinitely laborious. Even when *The Times* was much less than its present size, the task of "reading", correcting and controlling from forty to fifty columns of new matter was immense. But Mr. Delane never shrank from it, and it certainly gave the paper as a whole a unity, a cohesion and interest and an effectiveness which can be obtained by no other method.

Winston Churchill on The Times and Irish Home Rule, 1908: The Times is speechless, and takes three columns to express its speechlessness.

Hesketh Pearson on George Bernard Shaw, letter-writer to The Times for 52 years: I asked him how he had first got to know Lady Astor. "I have always refused to play the society clown and declined all invitations she sent me," he replied. "Then I met her at someone else's house, liked her at once and began to accept her invitations." She had been extremely useful to him, because she had influenced The Times to publish his letters, which was the only sort of official recognition he cared about, and meant far more to him than a dukedom or the Order of Merit.

William Ewart Gladstone, Prime Minister, 1886: The insolence of The Times becomes more and more a national evil.

William Hazlitt, writer and critic, after working on The Times in 1817: I would advise any one who has an ambition to write, and to write his best, in the periodical press, to get if possible a situation in The Times newspaper, the editor of which is a man of business and not of letters. He may write them as long and as good articles as he can, without being turned out of it.

Lord Reith, former directorgeneral of the BBC, on a meeting with Robin Barrington-Ward, 1941: Dined with Barrington-Ward at Travellers. He assumes the editorship of The Times the day after tomorrow. I told him what I thought of that job unique and with a prestige, dignity, responsibility, authority and independence quite of its own. My job at the BBC as I left it is the nearest comparable.

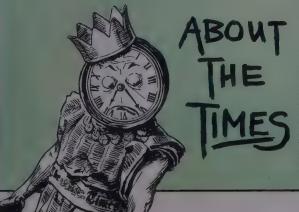
Thomas Carlyle on Edward Sterling, Times leader writer, 1812-1834: Sterling rushes out into the clubs, into London society, rolls about all day, copiously talking modish nonsense or sense and listening to

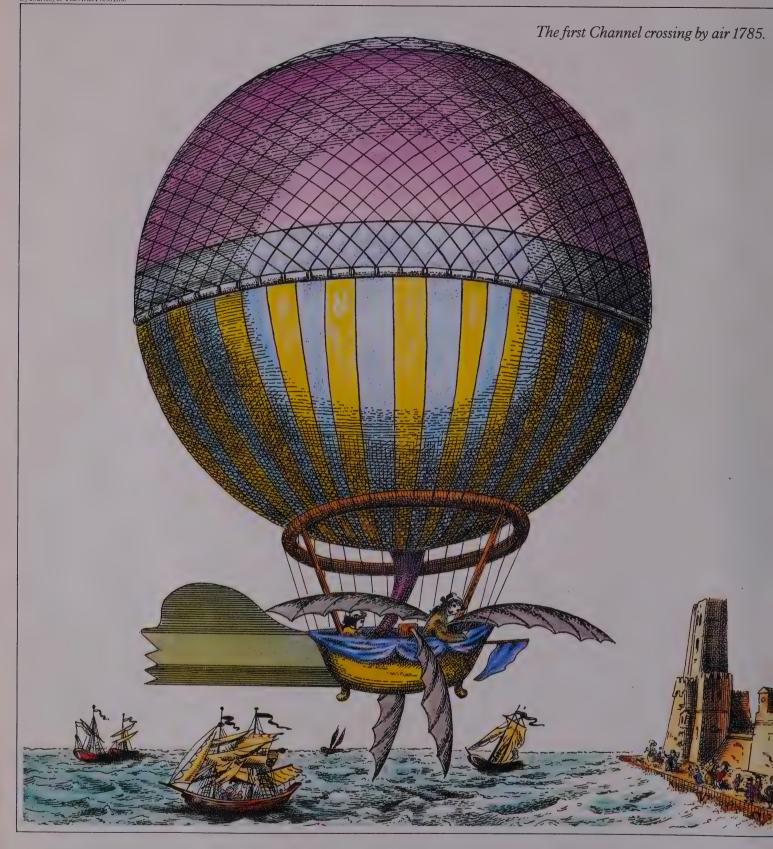
the like, with the multifarious miscellany of men; comes home at night; reducts it into a *Times* leader – and is found to have put the essential purport of the world's unmeasurable babblement that day with an accuracy beyond all other men.

Lord John Russell, Prime Minister, 1846-1852: If England is ever to be England again, this vile tyranny of The Times must be cut off.

Lord Northcliffe, writing to the editor, George Buckle, 1908: My position is merely that of one who wishes to see this country represented to the world by an absolutely independent newspaper, always, I trust, in my lifetime, worthy of its high traditions; the organ of neither parties, sects, nor financiers; its columns open to every shade of politics; a newspaper run not as a profitmaking machine at all. The Times is, in fact, in my life, what a yacht or a racing stable is to others – it is merely my hobby.

Northcliffe's last words, dictated to his doctor, 1922:In The Times I should like a page reviewing my life-work by someone who really knows, and a leading article by the best man available on the night.





200 years ago there was only one way to fly. There still is









Times change. Standards don't.

To some people, change can only near one thing: a drop in standards.

Something with which we at Royal oulton wholeheartedly disagree.

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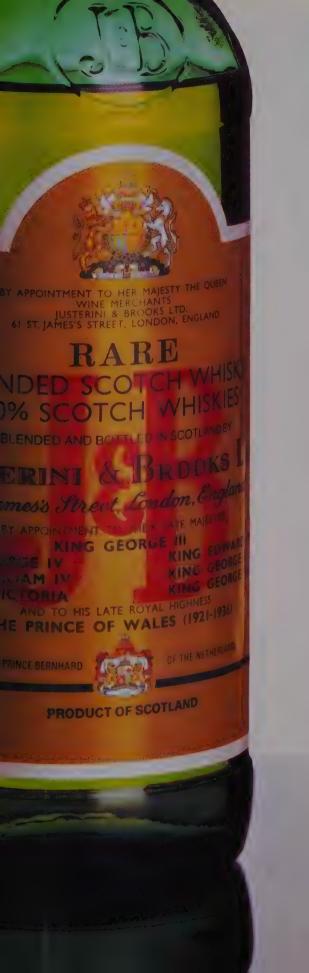
In fact, since John Doulton first ounded the Lambeth Pottery in 1815, our

artistic standards haven't changed; though new methods have joined tried and tested ones. (You've only got to glance at the ladies on this page to see how skilfully they're created by our artists.)



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On the face of it, the product of the French Empire period (1810 to 1820) and the product of the Rolex period exhibit different styles.

But beneath the surface, the dedication to detail, the hard-learned craftsmanship and the commitment to excellence remain unchanged.

Geneva, the home of both watches on this page, is also the International Headquarters of Rolex. Here, Rolex are proud to display their collection of some of the most exquisite examples of the watchmaker's craft.

Watches which are truly priceless works of art.

This bonbonniere-shaped watch is decorated with enamel; the central motif is surrounded by twelve floral decors, highlighted by a pattern of 750

tiny pearls.

The Rolex Oyster Day-Date below, on the other hand, carries the coveted Official Swiss Chronometer certificate.

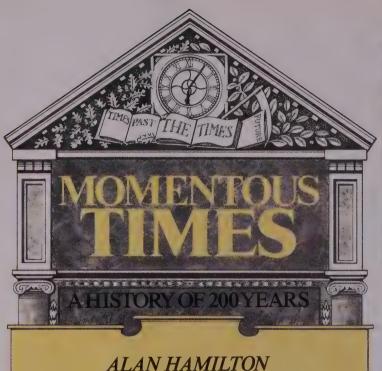
The case itself is carved from a solid block of 18ct. gold, and requires 162 separate

operations to complete. The bezel and dial are set with diamonds.

It's a watch that represents the virtuosity of the Geneva craftsman today.

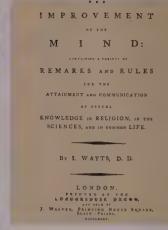
And it's for sale.





chronicles some of the key events, the misfortunes as well as the triumphs, in the life of a newspaper born four years before the French Revolution







ohn Walter's ambitions were modest enough. The surge of insurance claims arising from the American War of Independence having ruined his Lloyd's underwriting career, he needed a new venture to maintain a wife and six children.

He knew little of newspapers and less of printing, but much of business. He acquired the patent for logography, a new method of typesetting which was claimed to be faster and more accurate because it allowed more than one letter to be set at a time.

Walter bought a redundant works on the site of the old King's Printing House at Blackfriars, gentrified the courtyard in which it stood with the name of Printing House Square, and set out to be a logographic printer. But he needed to publicize his new process. A logographically printed daily advertising sheet would be just the thing.

The beginning of 1785 was a propitious moment at which to launch a new paper. Samuel Johnson was dead but a fortnight; Mozart and Robert Burns were still creating. The younger Pitt had just swept to power, stirring the first rumblings

for parliamentary reform. John Wilkes had recently established the press's right to report Parliament.

In the wake of Wilkes, a London daily press was already thriving, with eight morning papers, whose combined circulation was probably not more than 25,000, and none of which survives. Their stock-in-trade was parliamentary reports, foreign news culled from Continental papers, and advertisements. Most were intensely partisan to Whig or Tory

Walter's first issue of his Daily Universal Register on Saturday January 1, 1785, was not significantly different, except that he clearly regarded advertising revenue as far more important than politics. In his introductory essay To The Public he wrote: "The Register, in its politics, will be of no party ... Due attention should be paid to the interests of trade, which are so greatly promoted by advertisements." Unlike the other papers, he promised, he would not hold out ads to make room for windy Commons debates. Moreover, when the rest of the London press was threepence, the Register would be twopence-halfpenny.

His first four-page, 16-column

issue carried three columns of his introduction, one of foreign news, two of home news - including a lengthy report of a Guildhall bankruptcy hearing – and the rest was paid for: Mrs King's school for young ladies at Chigwell; seven shorthand lessons for a guinea; the barque Lively sailing for Leghorn . . .

John Walter had the sort of inauspicious start that all publishers will instantly recognize; his first edition was late off the press and missed the newspaper hawkers on their earlymorning rounds. Undismayed, he reprinted his three-column explanation of his aims and methods in the following Monday's issue.

1785 was also, coincidentally, the year of the first recorded trade union collective bargaining agreement of modern times, between the printers and the London newspaper publishers. Within four years logography was dead, killed by being a not very good idea in the first place, and by jealous compositors who saw in it a threat to their livelihood. But John Walter, now 49, simply changed the cumbersome title of his publication to The Times and watched it take on a life of its own.

Top: Walter and the first publication from his Logographic Press. Above: Printing House Square in the 1790s. Walter's private house is centre right, with offices adjoining. Below: a passage from Walter's address To The Public, printed on the front of the first issue of The Daily Universal Register. It lovingly explain: the virtues of his new printing method

These, though in my opinion good, are not the only grounds on which I build my hopes of success. I statter myself, I have some claim to public encouragement, on account of a great improvement which I have made in the art of printing. The inconveniences attending the old and tedious mode of compoling with letters taken up fingly, fift fuggefled the idea of deviling fome more expeditious method. The cementing of feveral letters together, so as that the type of a whole everal might be taken up in as short a time as that of a fingle letter, was the refult of much reflection on that subject. But the bare idea of cementing was merely the opening, not the accomplishment or perfection of the improvement. The fount consisting of types of words, and not of letters, was to be so arranged, as that a composition should be able to find the former with as much facility as he can the latter. This was a work of inconceivable difficulty. I undertook it however, and was fortunate enough, after an infinite number of experiments, and great labour, to bring it to a happy conclusion. The whole English language is now methodically and splenting can now be performed with greater dispatch, and at less expence, than according to the mode hitherto in use.

In bringing this work to perfection, I had not my own advantage solely in view; I wished to

ohn Walter's high-minded principle of putting advertising revenue before affairs of state was all very well, but it was not earning him much of a living. He was only doing what every other newspaper "conductor" did when, in 1789, he accepted an under-the-counter Government salary of £300 a year to publish paragraphs favourable to the King's party. It was a deal which rapidly backfired.

In that year George III was pronounced cured of his madness, to the relief of Pitt the Younger, the Prime Minister, who knew that a Regency under the Prince of Wales would soon have him out of power.

Two paragraphs duly arrived at Printing House Square, bearing the agreed secret mark of Thomas Steele, Secretary of the Treasury, and scorning the conduct of Prinny and the Duke of York at the King's bedside. Walter duly published, and the King's sons duly sued.

Walter's defence that he could not be personally responsible for every word in the paper was as lame then as it would be now, but he established a stout journalistic tradition by refusing to divulge his sources.

Walter was fined £50 and sentenced to two years in Newgate prison. He affected dismay that his paymasters had not come to his aid, and wrote that he was locked in his cell at eight every night "without a sixpence for all the expenses I am at"

But he protested too much: he continued to draw his £300 in jail. The Prince of Wales, in a moment of remorse, gave him another £250 for all his trouble and won him release after 16 months. And in the following year, 1792, Pitt's secret service accounts record: "June 1st, Mr Walter, as a gift-£250.'

What had got the proprietor of The Times into trouble was his enforced decision to turn it from a mediocre and unsuccessful commercial sheet to a more popular format, catering to the appetite of the day for gossip, scandal and innuendo.

It was a short-lived journalistic phase. Three days after Walter's trial opened on July 11, 1789, at the Court of King's Bench, the Bastille was stormed. It was an event that signalled the remaking of Europe and the making of The Times.

Right: Walter's letter from Newgate Prison to Lord Hawkesbury, one of several to prominent men, seeking clemency and protesting at conditions. His release was still one year away



Above: Pitt. the Prime Minister. Below: Walter's libellous report and his paper's record of his indictment

The Royal Dukes, and the leaders of oppo-fition in general, affect to join with the friends of our amable Sovereign, in rejoicing on account of his Majeffy's recovery. But the infineerity of their joy is vifible. Their late unfeeling con-duct will for ever tell againfi them; and contra-

duch will for ever tell against them; and contra-dict the artful protessions they may think it pru-dent to make.

It argues infinite wildom in certain persons, to ever presented the Duke of York from rushing into the King's apartment on Wednesday. The rathacts, the Germanick feverity, and infensi-bility of this young man, might have proved ruinous to the hopes and joys of a whole nation.

BILL OF INDICTMENT,

His ROYAL HIGHNESS the DUKE of YORK

AGAINST

JOHN WALTER,

FOR A SUPPOSED LIBEL ON the 21ft. of February 1789.

February 1789.

Be it remembered, that on Monday next, after one month of Eafter, in the 29th year of the rigin of our Sovereign Lord, George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. in the Court of our faid Lord the King, before the King himfelf at Weltminster, in the County of Middlefex, now here fworn and charged to enquire for our faid Lord the King and the body of the fime County; it is prefented as followeth, that is to fay, Middlefex to wit. The Jurors for our Lord the King, upon their oath prefent, that before the publishing of the faile, wicked, ma'icious, feandalous, and feditious libel, next bereinatter mentioned, our most gracious Sovereign Lord, the prefent King, was afflicted with, and labouted under a certain grievous fickness and malady, from which faid fickness and malady our faid Lord the King, a little before, and at the time of the publishing of the fail faile, feandalous, malicious, and feditious libe', was happi'y in a flate of recovery, to the great joy of all his faid Majefly's good and loyal subjects.







Royal figures in the libel case: George III (top), the subject of the report, and, above, the plaintiffs, the Prince of Wales (left) and the Duke of York (right)

Newgeto March 2: 1790. My Lord Catinet Minister, obser long Paperconed in the affairs of State makes your competent to judge of the Services of others, & she Sem servitle enewer open to render Suchice to their Complaints. to steady Support I have several years past rented my Sweriga of his Cominis brasin Brough the Chennel of the Times daily paper, & led the Weight for sprotiens Sentines from the Resentment of as

The regular troops held for the protection of Paris were perfuaded to join the people; they were encamped in the Champ de Mars, to the number of 5000 men, and marched to the Hotel of Invalids, a building in the out-skirts of the city. The invalids joined the rest, and brought away all the great guns, and other ammunition, belonging to the Hospital. With this reinforcement the people then attacked the Bassile Priton, which they toon made themselves masters of, and releated all the State Prifoners confined there, among whom was Lord MAZARINE, an Irifh Nobleman, who has been contined for debt near 30 years. The Prisoners in the other Goals were treed in like manner, excepting fuch as were under fentence of death, whom they hung up within the Prison. This seemed to argue a promeditated defign, as well as great caution.

On attacking the Ballile they fecured the Governor, the MARQUIS DE L'AUN . Y, add

1789: the French Revolution renewed the appetite for serious news reporting

1805 NELSON MAKES THE FRONT PAGE

n 1805 all news travelled at the speed of a horse, and great was the bribery of postal officials to hurry mails to the London papers.

The Times paid the Post Office 60 guineas a year to deliver the Continental papers, the primary source of foreign news, plus another 100 guineas or more in backhanders to the "guinea men", the postal clerks who translated them. It was to break the Post Office monopoly, incompetence, and malevolence in diverting the mail to those papers which best greased the postal palm, that The Times set up its own network of correspondents and couriers – the start of its foreign news service.

The postal officials were most put out at such a threat; they boarded incoming postal cutters at Channel ports and searched for *Times* mail, but the paper outwitted them by having its letters addressed to friendly London business houses.

Precisely how the greatest foreign news story of the paper's short career arrived at Printing House Square is not recorded, but it was a scoop for *The Times*.

The Battle of Trafalgar was fought on October 21. No one in England knew, though four days la-



ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Nov. 6.

Dispatches, of which the following are Copies, were received at the Admiralty this day, at one o'clock. A. M. from Vice-Admiral Collingwood, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels off Cadiz:—

SIR, Euryalus, of Cape Trafalgar. Oct. 22, 1805.
The ever-to-be-lamented death of Vice-Admiral
Lord Viscount Nelson, who, in the late conflict
with the enemy, fell in the hour of victory, leaves

The official despatch announcing the death of Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar was published on the front

page of November 7, 1805 (above). But The Times had also carried its own exclusive news story the day before

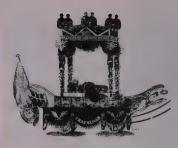


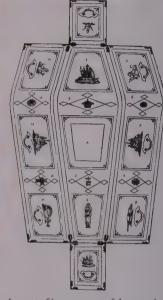
ter *The Times* was reporting well in advance of its rivals that Nelson, off Cadiz, was likely soon to engage the French and Spanish fleet.

The stunning news of Nelson's victory and death reached the paper and the Admiralty almost simultaneously, in the early hours of November 6. *The Times* published it in its second edition that day. The

Admiralty released the official despatch later and *The Times* put it on page one next morning.

The hero's funeral in London the following January was an even greater production for the paper, the occasion for the publication of its first editorial illustration: an extraordinarily detailed woodcut of Nelson's ornate catafalque.





As part of its coverage of the massive funeral of Nelson on January 9, 1806, The Times published elaborate woodcuts of his funeral car and of the decorations on his coffin

1815 THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

he Times fought the Battle of Waterloo with a new and powerful weapon – a steam printing press that produced 1,100 copies an hour, four times more than the hand presses of all its rivals.

But it had more: a network of correspondents in major European cities, by now well established, and assiduously cultivated contacts with Government ministers.

On June 21, 1815, the paper carried news from its correspondent in Brussels, reporting a letter from the Belgian Secretary of State: "A courier has just arrived from the Duke of Wellington. He was preparing to attack the French army, which was retiring."

The courier had left Waterloo at 5 am on June 17; the Secretary of State's letter had been written at 7 am, and the despatch arrived at *The Times* at 6 am on June 21. That, in 1815, was the speed of light.

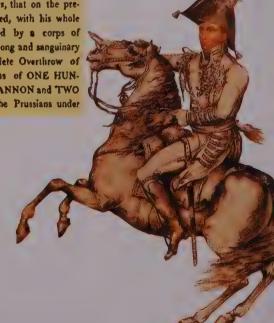


Napoleon

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

"Downing-street, June 22, 1815.
"The Duke of Wellington's Dispatch, dated Waterloo, the 19th of June, states, that on the preceding day BUONAPARTE attacked, with his whole force, the British line, supported by a corps of Prussians: which attack, after a long and sanguinary conflict, terminated in the complete Overthrow of the Enemy's Army, with the loss of ONE HUNDRED and FIFTY PIECES of CANNON and TWO EAGLES. During the night, the Prussians under

Above: victory for Wellington (right)



Battle had in fact been joined and won on June 18. Major Percy, Wellington's aide-de-camp, had made it to London with the news faster than anyone, and the paper had to be content with an official bulletin from Downing Street, published on June 22. It was big news but not big enough for the front page.

In later years the paper supported Wellington on Catholic emancipation, but chided his tardiness over reform. It also enraged him by revealing that he had been accompanied to a fancy-dress ball by a woman dressed as a man. "That was no man," fumed the Iron Duke. "That was Mary Queen of Scots."

MUSEUM

1819 EYE-WITNESS AT PETERLOO



magine, in our time, a peaceful trade union mass meeting being broken up by armed mounted police who killed or wounded more than 400 participants. Such was the incident at St Peter's Field, Manchester, on August 16, 1819 known as the Peterloo Massacre.

In the wake of the Napoleonic war came a time of depression and high food prices, and the mood of the country was for reform. Thomas Barnes – the first *Times* man who could properly be called editor in the present-day sense – deployed reporters to cover the great political meetings and take the nation's temperature first-hand. Thus was the paper's home news staff born.

John Tyas was detailed to cover the meeting in Manchester to be addressed by "Orator" Hunt, one of the leading radicals of the day. His account was of the utmost value for he was the only observer who was trained, impartial, and there.

Like a good reporter, Tyas made himself known to Hunt beforehand, and gained a favoured position on the platform, a wagon decorated with flags in the middle of the field. He saw clearly the entry of the cavalry, sent to arrest Hunt by local magistrates who feared a riot.

Tyas reported: "As soon as Hunt...had jumped from the wagon, a cry was made by the cavalry: 'Have at their flags'. In consequence, they immediately dashed not only at the flags which were in the wagon but those which were posted among the crowd, cutting most indiscriminately to the right and to the left in order to get at them."

Tyas's story was delayed by a day; he was arrested along with Hunt and spent the night in jail. But his measured, detailed report outshone all make their escape. As soon as Hunt and Johnson had jumped from the waggon, a cry was made by the cavalry, "Have at their flags." In consequence, they immediately dashed not only at the flags which were in the waggon, but those which were posted among the crowd, cutting most indiscriminately to the right and to the left in order to get at them. This set the people running in all directions, and it was not till this act had been committed that any brick-bats were hurled at the military. From that moment the Manchester Yeomanry Cavalry lost all command of temper. A person of the name of Saxton, who is, we believe, the editor of the Manchester Observer, was standing in the cart. Two privates rode up to him. "There," said one of them, " is that villain, Saxton; do you run him through the body." "No," replied the other, "I had rather not-I leave it to you." The man immediately made a lunge at Saxton, and it was only by slipping aside that the blow missed his life. As it was, it cut his coat and waistcoat, but fortunately did him no other injury. A man within five yards of us in another direction had his nose completely taken off by a blow of a sabre; whilst another was laid prostrate, but whether he was dead or had merely thrown himself down to obtain protection we cannot say. Seeing all this hideous work going on, we felt an alarm which any man may be forgiven for feeling in a similar situation: looking around us, we saw a constable at no great distance, and thinking that our only chance of safety rested in placing ourselves under his protection, we appealed to him for assistance. He immediately took us into custody, and on our saying that we merely attended to report the proceedings of the day, he replied," Oh! oh! You then are one of their writers-you must go before the Magistrates." To this we made no objection; in consequence he took us to the house where they were sitting, and in our road thither, we saw a woman on the ground, insensible, to all outward appearance, and with two large gouts of blood on her left breast. Just as we came to the house, the constables were conducting Hunt into it, and were treating him in a manner in which they were neither justified by law nor humanity, striking him with their staves on the head-After he had been taken into the house, we were admitted also; and it is only justice to the man who apprehended us to state, that he did every thing in his power to protect us from all ill-usage, and showed us every civility consistent with his duty. In the room into which we were put, we found the Orator, Johnson, Saxton, and some other individuals of minor note, among whom was another woman in a faint-



The Peterloo Massacre turned The Times from a paper regarded as Tory to one committed to reform. Thomas Barnes, its first true editor, was aware of the anxiety of the Prime Minister, Lord Liverpool (right), and his Home Secretary, Lord Sidmouth (centre), over a parliamentary reform meeting to be held in Manchester by the radical orator Henry Hunt (left). He sent to the spot a staff reporter, John Tyas, who witnessed from Hunt's platform the charge of yeoman cavalry into the crowd of 50,000 and reported in detail (above). Below and top left: the comments of the satirist George Cruikshank



the other, second-hand, accounts.

The Times, until then a reliable Government supporter, was horrorstruck, as was the country at large. The Government of Lord Liverpool passed the notorious Six Acts, which greatly tightened the laws on seditious libel and clapped a stamp duty on newspapers.

It was the high water mark of anti-press legislation in England, but Thomas Barnes was quite undeterred. Instead of merely reporting public opinion he resolved to lead it.

In one of his many impassioned and eloquent leader columns he called upon the people to "petition, ay, thunder for reform" and unwittingly coined in the process a soubriquet for his paper which long outlived him: The Thunderer.

OF PARIS

v the time of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 William Howard Russell, the greatest of all war correspondents, was 50 and on his last major assignment. He was beginning to commit the reporter's cardinal sin of getting his copy to London a day behind his rivals.

Russell's trouble was that he was deeply distrustful of, and uneasy with, the new-fangled electric telegraph, preferring the hand-written despatch and the hire of a fast cutter across the Channel.

"Send by the wires not a scrap of a few lines, but a whole letter," the foreign editor cabled from London in despair. "That is what the correspondents of the Daily News have been doing frequently." Twenty years earlier The Times had sold five times as many as all the other London papers put together; by 1870 it was selling half as many as the Daily News, the brightest of the new breed of penny papers.

a Capitulation.

for terms. Trochu is ill.

with honours of war. This is quite inadmissible.

CAPITULATION OF PARIS. (By TELEGRAPH.) (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

M. Jules Favre is now here with proposals for

He proposes that the garrison shall leave Paris

The attack on St. Denis and the great defeat of the 19th have mainly led to the resolution to ask

VERSAILLES, JAN. 24, 2 P.M.

Russell travelled with the Prussian army, often finding it difficult to keep up, and during the siege of Paris camped at Versailles with Bismarck, the Iron Chancellor, who regarded The Times highly.

While Russell reclined and wrote his hand-carved despatches from Versailles, little news came out of

besieged Paris.

But news did get in. Citizens elsewhere in France, wishing to inform their beleaguered families and friends in the capital that they were alive and well, sent small personal advertisements to The Times in London, which at the height of the siege covered all the front page and most of the second. The pages were then photographed, and the tiny negatives sent by carrier pigeon into Paris, to be projected on to a screen for the messages to be read.

Towards the end of the siege, Russell recovered his reputation with a splendid exclusive. He heard at first hand that Jules Favre, the leading French republican, had been seen at Versailles, and immediately assumed, correctly, that the French were suing for peace. This time he actually sent the news by telegraph.

He made it in time for the next morning's papers, and Bismarck awarded him the Iron Cross.

TRIUMPH FOR BLOWITZ

nlike Russell, Henri Stefan Opper de Blowitz, an adventurer from Bohemia with a photographic memory and a slippery reputation, was a master of the electric telegraph. He was made Paris correspondent in 1874, at the age of 45, and until he died in 1902 wrote his despatches in French.

He was also a master of the journalistic art of making contacts at a high level; representing The Times conferred almost diplomatic status and made it a great deal easier.

Despatched in 1878 to report the Congress of Berlin - at which the European powers redefined the Ottoman Empire as part of Europe -Blowitz sought out Bismarck, who instantly invited him to a quiet private dinner. The gesture so impressed lesser diplomats present that Blowitz was able to persuade one of them to give him an advance text of the treaty.

His problem was how to keep it to

himself yet get it to London in time. No use telegraphing it from Berlin: everyone would know. So he approached the Belgian minister in Berlin, told him The Times was planning a regular Brussels-London wire service, and asked for a letter to the Brussels telegraph superintendent authorizing a trial run.

He was handed the text the day before it was to be signed, and immediately made a great show of leaving Berlin in a fit of pique, claiming to have asked Bismarck for the treaty a day early and to have been refused.

He was, however, still without the Preamble and two vital clauses. On his way to the station he called on a French diplomat, proved he had most of the text, and persuaded the astonished Frenchman to recite the missing words, which he memorized and wrote out later on the Brussels train. He then sewed the lot into the lining of his assistant's coat.

Blowitz continued to Paris, while his assistant, Mackenzie Wallace, later foreign editor, changed for Brussels. At 5am Wallace was hammering on the door of the telegraph office, waving his letter of authority. At midday, as the treaty was being signed in Berlin, the later editions of The Times were already on the streets of London, carrying the text.





news emerged only by balloon

of the city's imminent surrender

(above) while miniaturized pages of

The Times were sent by pigeon (right).

But William Howard Russell (above

right) was able to telegraph his report



PIGEON'S LETTER





TREATY OF BERLIN. THE

The following text of nearly the whole of the Treaty signed on Saturday at Berlin was telegraphed by our Correspondent at Brussels, and appeared in our Second Edition of Saturday. The portions omitted have reference to lines of demarcation and other matters decided at the last moment, the obtaining of which would have considerably delayed the transmission of the docu-

" Préambule:—Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Allemagne, Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche-Hongrie, le Président de la République Française, Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne, Impératrice des Indes, Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie, Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Toutes les Russies, Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, désirant

The exclusive publication of the treaty reached at the Congress of Berlin (right) was a coup for the Paris correspondent, Blowitz. His breakthrough was a dinner with

Bismarck (left). They had never met but this sudden intimacy caused other diplomats to speak freely. Blowitz's memento was a fan (top) signed by leading politicians present

Henri Stefan Opper de Blowitz, caricatured above in Vanity Fair, was the Paris correspondent of The Times for more than a quarter of a century. His phenomenal memory, knowledge of modern communications and ability to secure timely interviews with

major figures commended him to the paper. But his egotism and flamboyance—at a height of less than 5ft-made him the subject of personal abuse, particularly in France (below right). He retired at 77 (below left) in 1902 and died in the same year





KHARTOUM

hen General Gordon arrived in Khartoum in 1884 he found only two Englishmen in the beleaguered city: the garrison commander and the Times correspondent, Frank Power.

Power was there almost by accident. He had originally arrived in the Sudan the previous August, from Egypt, and had set out from Khartoum as a young reporter with Hicks Pasha's expedition against the religious insurgent, the Mahdi. He had suffered a debilitating attack of dysentery and was strapped to a gun barrel in 127 degrees of heat before being sent back down-river to Khartoum. It saved his life: Hicks's force was obliterated in the desert.

He passed his convalescence learning Arabic and, as the telegraph was still working, filing regular reports to The Times on the desperate situation of the city's 10,000strong raggle-taggle local defence force should the Mahdi attack.

Sent by Gladstone to seek an accommodation with the Mahdi, Gordon wired home that Khartoum was "as safe as Kensington Park". But Power soon convinced him



General Gordon: killed

otherwise. His despatches to The Times grew gloomier, and his appeal for relief troops more insistent. Finally the Mahdi cut the telegraph

No relief column arrived, and Khartoum was now isolated. In desperation, Power left with a small party on September 10 in the hope of making it down the Nile to Cairo with an urgent plea for help. Stopping off to buy camels to continue on land, he was killed in an ambush.

On January 26, 1885, dervishes finally overran Khartoum, killing Gordon. Too late had the Government been moved by the Times reports to send help: a relief column arrived two days later, having set out from Cairo in September, the day before Power left Khartoum.

Since I last telegraphed, the rebels have almost daily been engaged, principally by the steamers. Khartoum is at present the centre of an enormous rebel camp. The rebels' tents are within sight, and their bullets often strike or go over the palace, in which a man was thus killed last week. We have killed several of the rebels, but our store of Krupp ammunition is rather short. The situation is now very critical.

We are trying to run a steamer through the rebel lines to Berber. Yesterday, owing to the severity of the rebel fire, she had to return. The day before yesterday an attack of the rebels on Omdurman was repulsed. We have mined the plain in front of the fortifications.

I have had only two sources of hope in this crisis

first, the expectation of an English relieving column; secondly, the plan of a retreat across the Equator. Because I am confident that General Gordon is abandoned by the Government, and that without Zebehr Pashahe can never beat the rebels, I fear that he will be driven to retreat by Central Africa. For to-day arrived an unciphered telegram sent from Sir Evelyn Baring to Berber, saying that no English troops would be sent to that place—in a word, clearly indicating that General Gordon and the others who have been faithful to the Government are thrown over.

To retreat on Berber is impossible. Sir Evelyn Baring's unciphered telegram to that place will quickly be spread abroad, and the Arabs will learn that the members of the English Government have turned down their thumbs while General Gordon is struggling here.

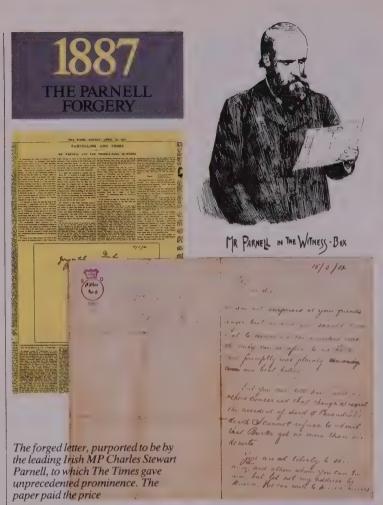
Frank Power (right), who kept





informed by visiting bazaars, was only 24 when he sent this despatch from Khartoum on April 7, 1884. It was the last to be published by the paper before he was killed while attempting to reach Cairo with an appeal for troops. On learning of his death Gordon said: Power was a chivalrous, brave, honest gentleman. Can one say more?'







he letters handed over to a representative of *The Times* with appropriate melodrama in a seedy Paris hotel certainly appeared genuine enough, however unlikely their content. Could Charles Stewart Parnell, respected Irish parliamentarian, have written these notes condoning a series of ghastly anti-British murders in Phoenix Park, Dublin? Well, that was his signature, was it not?

Well, was it? The Times planted an advertisement in its own columns offering to buy collections of political autographs, and for a mere £10 thereby acquired copious genuine examples of Parnell's hand. No doubt about it, said the leading graphologist of the day; it's the real thing. Some flimsy circumstantial evidence pointed the same way.

Don'ttouch them, counselled the paper's legal adviser; even if real, they have no standing in law. We'll use them, said George Buckle, a brilliant Oriel scholar who had succeeded to the editor's chair two years before at the tender age of 29. But we'll surround them with some

1895 THE JAMESON RAID FIASCO

ven had Flora Shaw not been The Times's first woman staff correspondent, she would have earned her place in the annals by exceeding the journalist's brief as pure observer and putting her own small spoke in history's wheel.

An elegant middle-aged figure, she struggled to prove to the solemn men of Printing House Square that she was their equal. She was highly capable, a committed imperialist, and an admirer of Cecil Rhodes.

In 1895 Rhodes and a group of accomplices hatched a plot to claim the Transvaal for Britain. Shaw was greatly enthused by the plan but kept it from the editor, George Buckle.

Rhodes's plan was to engineer a rising in Johannesburg of Uitlanders (foreigners working the gold mines, many of them British but without rights of citizenship under Boer rule) then see to it that they called for help. His own Matabeleland Mounted Police under Dr Starr Jameson would then march in from



Flora Shaw: enthusiastic

Rhodesia, ostensibly to their aid.

In November the manager of *The Times*, Moberly Bell, appointed Francis Younghusband as special correspondent in Johannesburg. In a letter he urged Younghusband to impress on Rhodes that any uprising should not be on a Saturday, as there would be no Sunday *Times* to carry the exclusive report.

By December, however, regular despatches from Younghusband indicated that an uprising was about the last thing the British in Jo'burg were likely to begin. The plotters prevaricated. Shaw kept up a con-



Starr Jameson (centre): jailed

stant stream of coded telegrams to Rhodes from London advising on tactics, suggesting dates for the raid, and urging him to get on with it.

The raid, when it happened, was a catalogue of incompetence bordering on the comic. There was no uprising. On December 29, Jameson set off for the Transvaal on his own initiative. His entire force got roaring drunk, and a trooper, sent to cut the telegraph wires lest news of their progress precede them, cut instead a humble wire fence.

Shaw meanwhile published in *The Times* a letter purporting to be a



Cecil Rhodes: prevaricated

request for help from the Uitlanders. It had in fact been drawn up a month earlier by a lawyer. Jameson, easily captured, was jailed by the British for 15 months.

There was widespread suspicion that Joseph Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary, had connived at the raid, with Flora Shaw as his gobetween. But at the subsequent Select Committee inquiry she stoutly denied any such complicity, emerging as something of a heroine.

The inquiry report blamed Rhodes, exonerated Chamberlain, and made no mention of *The Times*.



EDWARD HOUSTON

WHO BOUGHT THE LETTERS FROM PIGOTT AND SOLD THEM TO THE TIMES

weighty articles about "Parnellism and crime", so that any objections will be political rather than legal.

The first facsimile appeared in The Times of April 18, 1887, dignified by the paper's first-ever use of a double-column headline. Parnell at first refused to sue, but was finally stung into asking for an inquiry.

The Government set up a Special Commission. Parnell, defended by the future Prime Minister, HH Asquith, was totally exonerated and the letters declared forgeries. The Times was shown to be the one thing

'Genuine'

says Soames

worse than wicked: incompetent. Buckle's education had not schooled him to deal with Irish rogues such as Richard Pigott, the newspaper owner and blackmailer who was found to be the source of the letters.

Buckle thought he would be aiding the passage of the Government's Irish Crimes Bill. But he made the error of taking the go-between, a young Irish freelance named Houston, at face value and, worse, of inexplicably failing to consult his resident Irish leader writer, J Woulfe Flanagan, one of the best-informed

men in the country on Irish politics.

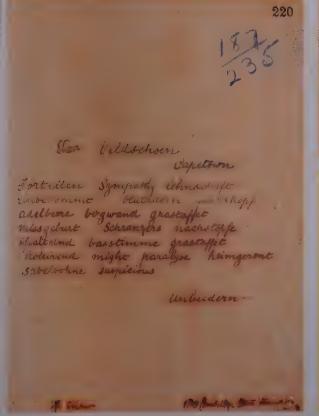
THE SOLICITOR FOR THE TIMES"

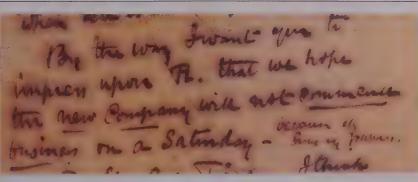
IN THE WITNESS BOX

The Government gave The Times every facility to prepare its defence, but in the end refused financial assistance. Pigott killed himself, and Buckle offered to resign. In 1889, as a direct result of the £200,000 legal costs, The Times recorded a deficit of £13,335, the first that century. It never really recovered. In the next century it was to have five owners.

Above: key figures of the Parnell Commission. Right: Punch enjoys The Times's penance







FIGOTT IDENTIFIES THE LETTERS

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS.

DEFEAT AND SURRENDER OF DR. JAMESON.

SIR IL ROBINSON GOING TO PRETORIA.

The following telegrams were received at the Colonial Office yesterday evening :-

" From Sir Hercules Robinson to Mr. Chamberlain. " January 2.

" Newton telegraphs that his messenger overtook Jameson ten miles on the other side of Elans river. Brought back verbal messages that

During the build-up to the abortive Jameson Raid (left) Flora Shaw was several times in contact with Cecil Rhodes, using the private code of his Chartered Company. Her second message (far left) was the 'hurry up' cable of December 12, 1895. 'Veldschoen' is Rhodes, 'Unbiedern' is Shaw. The message, decoded, reads: 'Delay is dangerous. Sympathy now complete but will depend very much upon action before European powers given time to enter a protest which might paralyse Government. General feeling in the stock market is very suspicious.

Above: the letter from The Times's manager, Bell, to Younghusband, urging him to tell Rhodes to avoid beginning the uprising on a Saturday



he fulsome two-column obituary which appeared in The Times of July 17, 1900, broke a triad of conventions.

First, it was an incestuous panegyric to one of the paper's own staff. Second, it lifted the customary veil of anonymity to reveal that their correspondent in China had been one Dr George Ernest Morrison, aged 38, who had perished at the hand of the Boxer rebels. Third, and rather more importantly, Dr Morrison of Peking was far from dead.

During the 55-day siege of the Chinese capital by the fanatical Boxers, reliable news from Peking was hard to come by. All London had to go on was a colourful report in the Daily Mail of the last hours of the foreign community: "Overcome by overwhelming odds, every one of the Europeans remaining was put to the sword in the most atrocious manner." Morrison had, in fact, escaped.

It was three years earlier that The Times, alerted to mounting Russian influence on a weakly-governed

> THE SIEGE OF THE PEKING LEGATIONS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PEKING, Avg. 14.

One of the ancient sages of China foretold that

"China shall be destroyed by a woman." The
prophecy is approaching fulfilment. When the
Empress-Dowager, in September, 1898, seized
once more the reins of power, who could have
foreseen that she was to lead her country with
such swiftness to destruction? The anti-foreign,
anti-Christian movement which has now culmirated in the occupation of Peking by the allied
Powers and the destruction once for all of China's
power as a nation was from the outsetencouraged
and fostered by the Empress-Dowager and by the
Ignorant reactionaries whom she selected as her
addisers.

Top: Morrison leaving Yunnan City, after recovering from a form of plague during his walk across China in 1894. Right: Morrison the graduate, 25 Above: his report of the Peking siege

China, culminating in Chinese acceptance of the Trans-Siberian Railway across its territory, decided it needed a resident correspondent there. They picked Morrison, a Scots Australian who had no journalistic experience but who had walked across China for a total cost of £18, including native dress, and had written rather a good book about it.

Morrison had also walked across Australia and penetrated inner New Guinea, from where he carried the tip of a hostile native spear in his head for five months until he turned up in Edinburgh to study medicine, and had it removed by the resident professor of surgery.

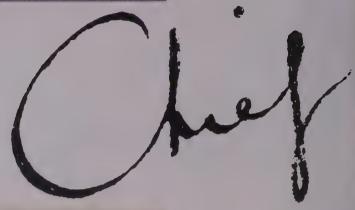
He proved an outstanding journalist, whose understanding of and sympathy for China no contemporary could match. His standing was such that, on the establishment of the Chinese Republic in 1911, he left the paper to become political adviser to the first President.

Unable to get copy out during the 55-day siege, Morrison acted with great courage in helping to relieve besieged foreigners, and was slightly wounded by a Boxer bullet.

Sir Claude MacDonald, the British minister in Peking, said of him in despatches: "Active, energetic and cool, he volunteered for every service of danger and was a pillar of strength when things were going badly."Throughout the siege he kept a meticulous diary, and when communication with London was restored he filed a graphic 30,000-word despatch to The Times, published in full over two days, which remains an unrivalled account of the siege.

Morrison, a man of his times who believed passionately in the concept of British Empire, was so well informed and influentially connected in China that the suspicion lingers to this day that he may have been a British Government agent, or even a double agent working for his beloved China at the same time. But there is no proof and, as complaints in the House testify, he always filed to The Times first.







ord Northcliffe observed: "The Times thinks that news, like wine, improves by keeping." It did not stop his wanting to own the paper.

He had founded the Daily Mail in 1896, and by the time of the Boer War had seen it grow to a circulation of nearly one million, purveying bright journalism to the newly literate masses at a price of one halfpenny. The Times, by contrast, was accurate, staid, slow and threepence.

Alas, staid accuracy cost nearly sixpence per copy to produce, and with circulation down to 38,000 the paper was facing either extinction or a fundamental change. It had never recovered from the costs of the Parnell case, and now seemed to have lost direction as well as profit.

Northcliffe had been after the paper since 1898, but the Walter family refused to sell. It was a revolt by the small shareholders, dismayed by its poor performance, that eventually secured it for him in 1908 for the sum of £320,000.

Above: Alfred Harmsworth, later Lord Northcliffe - the Chief - when he first started working in London

Northcliffe re-equipped its now outdated printing plant, put a small bomb under its slack administration, and in 1912 appointed a new editor, Geoffrey Dawson, aged 37. He reduced the price, first to twopence; then on March 15, 1914 the first penny Times, a 24-pager, rolled from the press. The Chief wanted a circulation of 100,000, so at least a dash of popular journalism was imposed on the worthy grey columns: a light and witty fourth leader that survived until 1967; a books page; and articles on Paris fashions and golf for women.

But to avoid frightening the traditionalists, the letters column that first penny morning contained two contributions from bishops.

Success was dramatic; sales shot to 150,000 immediately, and by the outbreak of the Great War had reached 278,000. When they passed 300,000, Northcliffe saw that some of his other plants might have to be called on to print copies, and with that in mind he reopened the doors of The Times to the print unions, excluded since a dispute in 1810.

As the mercurial Northcliffe began to wane with age and derangement, he quarrelled with Dawson, who resigned, to be replaced by the flamboyant foreign editor, Wickham Steed. The Times, too, began to ail again in the carefree postwar era. to which it was ill-matched. Northcliffe's last act, on March 2,1922, shortly before his death, was to launch another innovation in The Times, which survives - pictures.

In some ways The Times was Northcliffe's one great failure, for he never really made it his paper. The "Black Friars", the shadowy but powerful senior editorial men, fought to keep many of the paper's old ways and values. But Northcliffe's innovations dragged The Times into the 20th century when others would have left it for dead.



Lloyd George praised Northcliffe's wartime work as director of propaganda in enemy countries but the German press called him the King of Lies

be is the most desaphorning to him such so the most he saphorn have been rough the have been rough with the have been rough with the having as a pass hy the hander. I have been rough with him.

After Northcliffe made Wickham Steed editor, he took him on a world tour (right). But later Steed fell victim to the Chief's mental illness. Above: the transcript of a telephone message from Northcliffe to the paper just before he died

THE TIMES.

His Lordship Mr. Justice Warrington yesterday made an order sanctioning an agreement under which a company will be forthwith formed to take over the business of the publication of The Times newspaper and the undertakings carried on in connexion therewith. Mr. Walter will be Chairman of the Board of Directors, which will consist solely of existing members of the Staff-Mr. George Earle Buckle, Mr. Valentine Chirol, Mr. William Flavelle Monypenny, with Mr. Moberly Bell as Managing Director. No shares will be offered to the public.

There will be no change whatever in the political or editorial direction of the paper, which will be conducted by the same Staff on the independent lines pursued uninterruptedly for so many years.



In the last year of his life Northcliffe increasingly bombarded the office with insults thinly disguised as exhortations





Northcliffe's publishing empire began in 1888 with Answers: 25 years later he was 'the Napoleon of the Press'



In March 1914 Northcliffe halved the price of The Times to 1d. Punch had its fun (below) but sales rose from 50,000 to 150,000. The day war was declared (above), sales hit 278,000



Left: the report on the sale of The Times was restrained. Notso, however, Northcliffe's adornment of the building (above)



1922 THE TREASURES OF TUTANKHAMUN

hen, on the death of Northcliffe, *The Times* passed into the hands of John Jacob Astor, the younger son of Lord Astor, the paper by no means forgot all the tricks it had been taught by its old master. One such was chequebook journalism.

Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter had been digging in Egypt's Valley of the Kings since 1914 and had almost abandoned hope of a find when, in 1922, they unearthed beneath the sand a staircase of 16 stone steps. Whatever lay at the bottom, they did not want the world's press trampling all over it and interfering with their delicate work.

So they signed an exclusive contract with *The Times*, which for £7,500 acquired the right to report their discoveries and to sell the story around the globe. Considering the subsequent find, it was a bargain.

The gradual approach to Tutankhamun's tomb provided a gripping daily narrative for *Times* readers, and infuriated everyone else.

The tomb was entered on February 16, 1923, and Carter passed out false information to the other correspondents. But the monopoly was broken by the correspondent of Reuters, who collared an Egyptian workman who had come out to relieve himself and confirmed that the tomb had been opened.

Yet the best and fullest story was still that in *The Times* the next day: "Opening of the Tomb. Seals Broken. A Magnificent Spectacle."

TUTANKHAMEN'S TOMB.

FIRST PHOTOGRAPHS OF INTERIOR.

PREPARING TO OPEN SEALED CHAMBER.

ARRIVAL OF LORD CARNARVON.

We begin to-day the special service of news and pictures from the tomb of King Tutankhamen which we have arranged with Lord Carnarvon, in accordance with the agreement announced in "The Times" of January 10.

of January 10, On page 14 will be found the first photographs which have yet appeared of the interior of the first chamber of the tomb. Special interest attaches to the main picture, as it shows clearly the scaled doorway of what it is hoped will prove the actual resting place of the Pharach.

["The Times" World Copyright, by arrangement with the Earl of Carnarvon.]



The paper recovered £5,900 in syndication fees, but was dismayed that the expenses of its two reporters and photographer amounted to £3,500.

Irked at its antiquities being excavated by foreigners, the Egyptian government forced Carter to close down his dig the following year, and ensured that he did not do to King Tut what Elgin did to the Marbles. But with the help of *The Times* they were finally lent in 1972 for stunning display at the British Museum.

LUXOR, FEB. 16.

This has been perhaps the most extraordinary day in the whole history of Egyptian excavation. Whatever anyone may have guessed or imagined of the secret of Tutankhamen's tomb, they surely cannot have dreamed the truth as now revealed. Entrance to-day was made into the sealed chamber, and yet another door opened beyond that. No eyes have yet seen the King, but to a practical certainty we now know that he lies thore, close at hand, in all his original state, undisturbed.

Moreover, in addition to the great store of treasures which the tomb has already yielded, to-day has brought to light a new wealth of objects of artistic, historical, and even intrinsic value which is bewildering. It is such a hoard as the most

Top: thanks to its exclusive contract The Times was able to photograph Howard Carter as he led porters from the tomb of Tutankhamun. The sensational discoveries were fully reported in words and pictures

DECORATIVE ART IN THE PHARAOH'S TOMB.



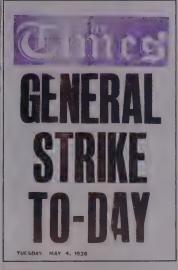
the first first beginner. It does not be been to another than of the place owner, the contract of the place o





the describable always the procure rate gas. It was described by configurated above described

1926 A GENTLEMANLY CRISIS



he Times was the only national daily to print throughout the 1926 General Strike, thus preserving a record of uninterrupted publication from its first issue until the strike of 1955. At Printing House Square the dispute was a curiously civil affair.

Although the General Strike was called over attempts by the private coal owners to cut miners' wages, the touchpaper was lit in the office of the Daily Mail when, on May 2, printers refused to handle a "King and Country" editorial of which Northcliffe would have been proud. The seismic wave hit The Times the following night, when the fathers of the printing chapels announced their objection to preparing an appeal for volunteers to drive buses.

But by then, that night's edition was already running. "We part as friends, and hope to meet as such before long," the chairman and one of the new proprietors, Major Astor, told the printers as they walked out. Informed that his strikers could not get home because all public transport was stopped, Astor ensured that they were all given lifts in a fleet of emergency delivery vans.

Next day the building was picketed. But the pickets still touched their caps as the paternalistic Astor crossed their line, and he in turn made sure they were fed and watered from the staff canteen. Inside, he had assembled a rag-bag workforce: non-union *Times* employees, domestic staff from his town house, a chauffeur and eight gardeners from Hever Castle, *Times* pensioners coaxed from retirement and a bevy of duchesses and Tory MPs.



The duplicating room and (right) its unique publication



A volunteer familiarizes herself with a typesetting machine



Preparing to make a delivery by emergency transport. Far left is the novelist Graham Greene, then on the staff



The Times

Wednesday, May 12: loading the special afternoon edition, of 83,000 copies, announcing the end of the strike

Astor had also installed six Multigraphs, hybrids of printing machines and office duplicators. That night the Multigraphs produced 48,000 copies of a single-sheet typewritten *Times* the size of a business letter, dubbed the "Little Sister" or "Pipsqueak". It was a point of honour that the paper was still publishing.

On Wednesday someone tried to set fire to the paper stocks. But infinitely more damaging was the decision of Winston Churchill as Chancellor to commandeer a quarter of *The Times*'s precious newsprint on which to print his propagandist official sheet, the *British Gazette*.

By now a motley crew, including a sea-captain and several undergraduates, had been sufficiently schooled in running a rotary printing press for a slim but conventional *Times* to hit the streets.

Before the strike, circulation had been 186,000. By the end it was 405,000, and on May 12 *The Times* still had energy – and paper – left to bring out a rare afternoon edition announcing that the strike was over.

Apart from one attempt at sabotage, publication was maintained throughout the strike amicably and efficiently. Special passes were issued (right) and staff volunteers later received a letter from the chairman and a silver matchbox. Below, the news on May 12

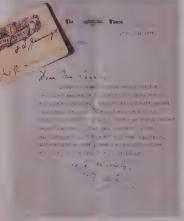
SPECIAL EDITION.

GENERAL STRIKE DECLARED OFF.

DECISION TO-DAY.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM DOWNING STREET.

It was officially announced at Downing Street shortly after 1







MEMORANDUM

ON A PROPOSAL TO REVISE

THE TYPOGRAPHY OF

The Times

1030

When Stanler Morison was appointed m 1420 he serous his ambitions in a rear to the manager regist and later THE THE MANAGEMENT AND AND AND THE PARTY OF SHEET The changeover (below) was striking

"THE TIMES"

LAST DAY OF THE OLD TYPE

MONDAY'S CHANGES

The Times appears to-day for the last time in the type to which the present meration has grown accustomed On Monday the changes already an-

eading The Times used to be an act of heroic endeavour. a Spartan trudge for the eve obliged to plough endless unbroken furrews of dense print.

In the late 1020s the paper at last decided to mitigate such merciless demands, knowing that many a Times reader's eve was not in its first flush of vouthful clarity. Stanley Monson, appointed typographical adviser, was asked to design a new type face for the paper.

Monson wrote that a new typeface had to be "worthy of The Times -masculine. English, direct, simple. not more novel than it behoveth to be novel... and absolutely free from fuddishness and frivoluty

The result was Times New Roman, drawn by Victor Lardent of The Times from Monson's sketches and out by the Monotype Corporation. It was well suited to the impeccable presswork and high-quality paper The Times then enjoyed and was an instant success when the paper appeared dressed in its new garb on October 3, 1932 Single-column headlines were still the order of the day, but the new type led the eveai ha the line with the greatest facilto vet was strong enough to withstand the mechanical pressures of printing), and the feeling of in-



we can work together effectively, strill not be too optimistic to hope to make The Times the finest prece of princing nothernt exception, in the world

"THE TIMES" IN NEW TYPE

HOW THE CHANGE WAS MADE

The change of type completed with this morning's issue of The Times has involved one of the biggest undertakings ever accomplished in a newspaper office. More than two years have been devoted to designing and cutting the type charac-

creased white space around the words made the page much more attractive and readable.

The changeover, effected during a weekend with no loss of production, involved bringing in 35 tons of new metal and many thousands of new matrices for the machines that set the type.

Morison had strong objections to the Gothic lettering of the title-piece and its accompanying Royal Arms which, in any case, the paper had no right to use. Gothic was replaced by Times, but the proprietor's sentimental attachment to the Royal Arms was too strong; John Walter had used them in 1785 because they were carved on the front of his King's Printing House.

Times New Roman was a lasting success. Although modern production methods mean that the version used in today's Times is greatly altered from Morison's original Times New Roman remains one of the most widely used typefaces, particularly for books and periodicals.

Curiously, the official History of the Times, of which Morison personally wrote several volumes, including the one covering the design changes, does not mention him by name and devotes less than a paragraph to his enduring innovations.

OF EDWARD VIII

he colourless downpage story in The Times of October 28, 1936, under the headline "Undefended Divorce Suit" gave no clue to the significance of the lady in question, Mrs Wallis Simpson.

Anyone with access to the foreign papers would have known a very great deal about her, but the British press maintained a studied silence on her romance with the uncrowned King Edward VIII. Editors, unsure of how to handle such a rare delicacy, took their cue from The Times. The editor, Geoffrey Dawson, disapproved of the marriage plans but upheld the King's right to privacy; he also believed that publicity might further cloud the King's already unstable judgement.

The gaff was blown on December 2 when the Yorkshire Post reported a sermon by the Bishop of Bradford in which he hoped the King was aware of the need for God's grace at his Coronation, adding its own full explanation of the bishop's words.

Dawson blandly reported the bishop, but waited another day to provide his readers with the answers to the clues. The King got to hear, wrongly, that The Times was planning to publish an attack on Mrs Simpson, and commanded Baldwin to have it stopped; the Prime Minister was obliged to explain that the contents of The Times were a matter over which he had no control.

When the editorial appeared it forbore mentioning Mrs Simpson by name and restricted itself to mild criticism of a marriage "incompatible with the Throne". Dawson also

A tin souvenir badge for the coronation which never took place



King Edward at his desk. He asked Baldwin to suppress a Times leader

sought to explain the press's previous silence as due "neither to lack of public anxiety nor to any form of pressure upon the newspapers, official or collusive, but simply to a common self-restraint, inspired by the hope that some authoritative act or statement would enable them to put an end to it once for all." With the secret out, the Instrument of Abdication was not long delayed.

No letters on the subject were published in The Times, but an internal survey of the hundreds received showed that early support for the King faded as the true tale unfolded.

On the morning after the Abdication. Dawson's editorial damned the departed sovereign with faint praise: "King Edward had most of the qualities that would have made a great Constitutional Monarch."

UNDEFENDED DIVORCE SUIT

CASE AT IPSWICH ASSIZES

At the Ipswich Assizes yesterday Mrs. Wallis Simpson, who gave her address as Beech House, Felixstowe, with a London address at Cumberland Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W., petitioned for the dissolution of her marriage with Mr. Ernest Aldrich Simpson on the ground of his adultery at the Hotel de Paris, Bray-on-Thames, in July this year. Mr. Justice Hawke granted a decree with with the control of the property of th

year. Ma. JUSTICE HAWKE granted a decree nais with costs.

The name of the woman concerned was not disclosed in open Court, but was stated to be in the petition. The suit was undefended. Mr. Norman Birkett, K.C., and Mr. Walter Frampton appeared for the petitioner. The respondent was not represented by counsel. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were married at Chelsea register office on July 21, 1928, and afterwards lived at addresses in Berkeley Street, W., and Bryanston Court. There were no children of the marriage.

The case for Mrs. Simpson was that she lived happily with her husband until the autumn of 1934, when there was a change in his manner towards her. He became indifferent to her and event away alone and stayed away week-ends. After Easter this year she consulted her solicitors, and subsequently received information upon which the petition was based.



Left: the Times report of Mrs Simpson's divorce. The American press was less restrained (above)

1938 A QUESTION OF APPEASEMENT

arely in its history has such obloquy descended upon The Times as it did on the marrang of September 7, 1938

Readers inconvered a leader on History annexation of the Sudetenand which even though pussificating with the Führer still retained a shred of credibility as a means of defusing the fizzing powder-keg of Europe, wounded like a perfect justification for German Annexation.

"It might be worthwhile for the Czechoslovak Government to consider whether they should exclude altogether the project, which has found favour in some quarters. of making Czechoslovakia a more homogener us state, hy the secession of that fringe of alien populations who are contiguous to the nation with which they are united by race...The advantages to Czechoslovakia of becoming a homogeneous state might conceivably outweigh the obvious disadvantages of losing the Sudeten German districts of the borderland."

Genified Dawson, the editor, had returned from a long avoidable of Yorkshire the previous afternoon, out of touch with the latest nuances in the gathering storent, to find his toreign leader writer already at a like in the surface. The version which appeared in early editors that make has within altered to Dawson in the belief that he was uning a daws.

Dawson was an appeaser for reasons he had long and honestly held. He had never relieved in squeezing the defeated Cormany of the Kaiser until the paps squeexed, and had long neen committed to a revision of the Versailles peace treaty, which had placed large German-speaking monormers under the control of Sian governments. Richal Barrington, Ward, the deputy edition, agreed for his now reasons, he had frugation the trenches and never wanted to see such war again.

Months before. Dawson or his leaders had been adviceding self-determination for all the monthly peoples in Czechoslowakia, and had been sufficiently aware of the long-term dangers to suggest the need for attractoration at home

What gid most immediate damage in the September 1 leader was the phoase has found favour in some quarters, include every ne to assume that Dawlor was relaying the official Brown Concernment

The amendment is the Substitution leading artise in the band of the bands. Get their Dawnin Internation A providing artists, in the third is

tiem. He was not, he was merely jumping the gun. But it was certainly not help to the German and Coech negotiators who were trying to hand some typeless tissue of an agreement on the Sudeterland.

To can hardly have to unveil the Fuhrer, who saw the Suderemand and the subsequent Munich agreement with Chambertain as the more waitz of the face. When Hitter in-

waded Prague on March 15, 1999, any Lingering the Lights of appearament in the mands of Ge office) Dawson or the British Government and bencie, were instantly wested as all people.

But it was a great ment years more petitienthe ingering stigma he is of unwardice, treachery, or plain all-judgement, was finally strunned from the steps of Prinning House Sugare

1940 WAR COMES TO THE TIMES

ny lingering adherence in the *Times* office to the paper's prewar stance of appeasement must have vanished the night "a whistle of bombs as close as breathing" scored a direct hit on Printing House Square.

It happened shortly before 2 am on the morning of September 25, 1940, when 300 people were in the building, including the sleeping that man and easier, and the presses were parely halfway included their night's run.

The offices were heavily damaged, but thanks to prewar rebuilding which had placed all the vital production departments below

ground, the machines spewed in inclusious to the devastation apstairs. With most of the staff at work or rest in the howest of Blackfrars, there were no sendus incurses.

For a newspaper which had for so long county to peace. The Times was remarkably well prepared for war. It had the most efficient Air Raid Precautions and Civil Defence organization of an out business and Avert the tharman was addition.



Crowse in Queen Visions Speed he morning after the Times failling was 62.50 a German round. In close waster wasternach the payerners

commanding officer of the 5th Corport Lundon Press Bartalous one of the Home Grand's hest-trained units he even converted my paid him Rouls to an armoured for Inthe event of invasion, to Assur's pressmen would nave fallen the task of sepulsing the Nam paratriospers from the Square Mae.

Two days after the month the German News Agency reprinted than The Times had been proposed and was being forced to crining at all me provided the paper making any methods of the variety of the Agriculture of the variety of the Agriculture of the second of the Agriculture of the

As the beloate of the Blutz newsprint callining timbed. The Times disance is pages, and the popular press there. Industrial was pegged first as 1st 41, sugney telms as morthal pressure level, and later at 157,111, the pages preferred a smaller opposits to if the at pages.

The Times has all was seemed at this heat an itemes of national unions. We emerged from the war having mit list a single issue stringer than the many years. It has a faced the charlenge of heing and its faced the charlenge of heing and its faced space in the member Brotain of the Wedare State.

DAMAGE TO "THE TIMES" OFFICE

A HEAVY BOMB

NO INTERFERENCE WITH **PRODUCTION**

It is now permissible to publish the fact that recently The Times Office was heavily bombed and was much damaged. The part of the building which was struck is that facing Queen Victoria Street. Printing House Square, where stands what was the home of the Walter family in earlier centuries and the first home also of the newspaper they produced, escaped most of the surrounding destruction.

This destruction must have been greater but for the solid walls, the work of another generation, which defended the fabric on Queen Victoria Street. Windows indeed were smashed, the well-known clock disappeared, and there was some defacement; but the ancient red brick stood up well to the test of modern bombardment. The partial ruin of neighbouring structures showed how fierce the test had been.

Interior damage, however, was severe.

Interior damage, however, was severe.



It was three weeks before The Times was permitted to report (far left) the damage to its own building. The front office (centre) was barely recognizable as its old self (inset). Editorial offices, such as the art department (right) and sports room (below), were wrecked, but vital machinery in the basement was unscathed





In 1941, as the Blitz continued, Geoffrey Dawson (left) retired as editor and was succeeded by Robin Barrington-Ward (right). Seven years later both had died



For three years from November 1942, The Times typeset, printed and distributed the Stars and Stripes, the daily newspaper for US servicemen in Europe. The Americans worked in the Times building, employing a large proportion of the workforce as their print grew from 50,000 copies to more than 300,000. The manager, CS Kent, had only one reservation: he found some of the pin-up pictures too risqué





Times staff endured many privations to ensure that the paper survived the war without losing an issue. Above: Lieut-Col. Astor (second right), the chairman, on the roof of The Times with a group of ARP 'spotters'. Inset: a Times ARP cigarette case. Right: Astor and Dawson in their basement room, and even more makeshift sleeping arrangements for journalists







1953 CORONATION DAY EXCLUSIVE

ames Morris had climbed little more severe than a staircase when, at the age of 27, he was assigned by *The Times* to cover the ascent of Everest in 1953.

He had first joined as a holiday trainee sub-editor from his studies at Christ Church, but his stylish writing soon earned him a foreign posting. The combination of a fine writer and a world-class exclusive is what every editor dreams of, and in Morris the paper was not disappointed.

He accompanied Col. John Hunt's climbers on the 180 roadless miles from Kathmandu to base camp, and despite his total inexperience managed camp IV at 22,000 feet. It was there, peering upwards, that he witnessed the scoon of his life:

he witnessed the scoop of his life:
"I pushed the goggles up from my
eyes; and just as I recovered from the
sudden dazzle of the snow I caught

sight of George Lowe, leading the party down the hill. He was raising his arm and waving as he walked! It was thumbs up! Everest was climbed!"

But how to get the news to Printing House Square? Kathmandu was full of rival correspondents with high-powered radios combing the airwaves for clues. Morris stumbled down to base camp, and in a prearranged code wrote the message: SNOW CONDITIONS BAD STOP ADVANCED BASE ABANDONED MAY 29 STOP AWAITING IMPROVEMENT.

He handed it to a sherpa, and prayed that the man would make it to the Nepalese police radio station at Namche, 80 miles away, without being set upon by robbers, avalanches or the *Daily Express*. The message got through, and Printing House Square knew its true meaning: "Everest climbed by Hillary and Tensing on May 29."

On June 2 Morris, his ear pressed to a crackling radio, heard the BBC World Service announce that today was Coronation Day, and that a despatch to *The Times* had reported the conquest of Everest. His timing, like his prose, was impeccable.



The 1953 expedition to Everest, under Col. John Hunt, was only the last of several to have been supported by The Times. On this occasion, however, sensing the possibility of success, the paper despatched a special correspondent, James Morris. Left: a letter from Hunt to Morris records the failure of the first assault on the summit. Success came on May 29, the Times report on June 2

EVEREST CONQUERED

SUMMIT REACHED BY TEAM FROM BRITISH EXPEDITION



The conquerors of Everest return to London Airport in July 1953. Hunt, with flag, is flanked by Hillary and Tensing. Far right is the bearded Morris





At Lynden Gate we have re-created an elegant past in a development bordered by the natural splendour of Putney Heath.

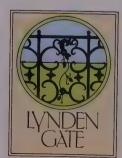
New two and three bedroom houses with three reception rooms are set around cobblestone squares in the style of Regency London.

To appreciate the exceptionally high standard of interior fittings and experience the ambience of this unique development, breeze along to the showhouse that Harrods have lavishly furnished.

The freeholds, which include mews garages, are offered for sale at around £200,000.

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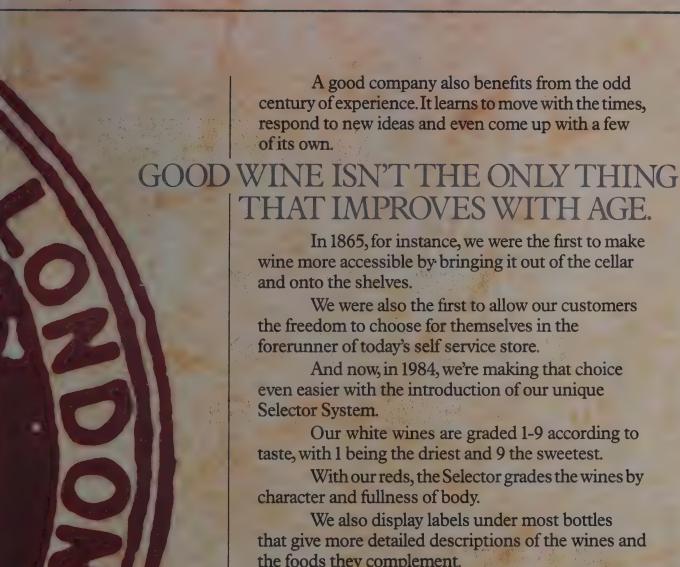


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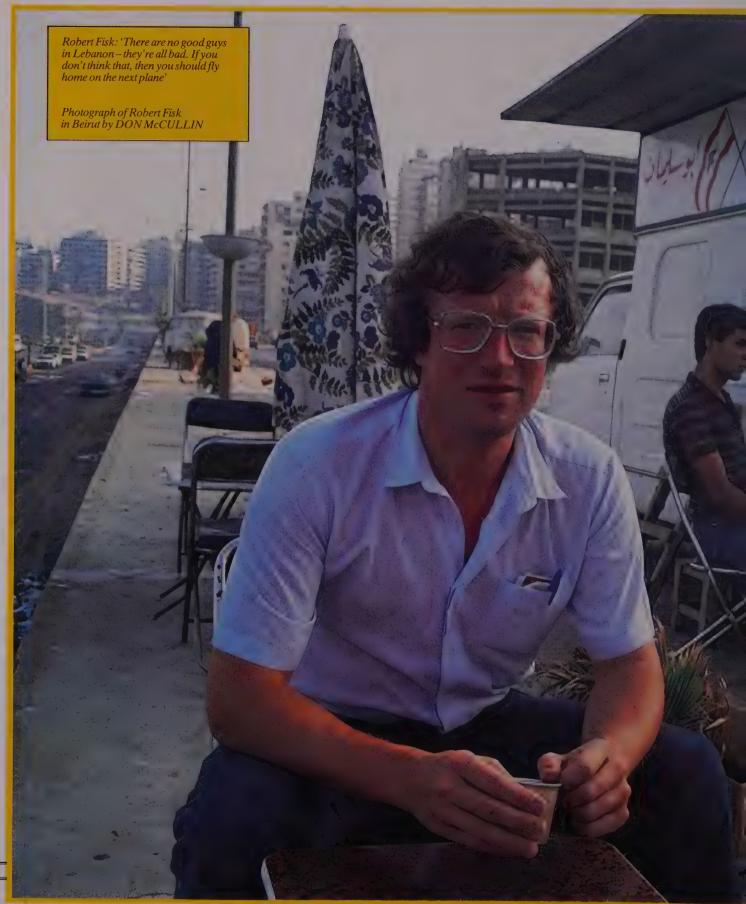
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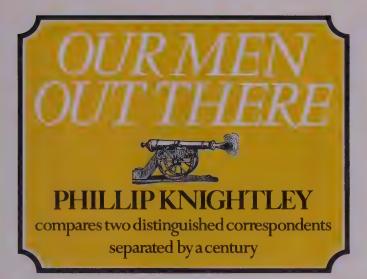
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n Palm Sunday, 1978, Robert Fisk of *The Times* found himself with three Associated Press correspondents in the hills above the ancient city of Tyre in Lebanon, where Palestinian guerrillas were resisting the Israeli invasion. It was a brilliantly hot day, deceptively like an English summer, so the four men stopped their car by a great stone sarcophagus, the tomb of the Old Testament King Hiram, and got out to sit in the fields for a while.

They spent a few minutes watching the vapour trails of Israeli jets high overhead, then turned their attention to the noise of a large vehicle moving out of the next village and down the road towards them and the guerrilla positions. They had watched it for some 30 seconds when, as Fisk recalls, "There was a tremendous whizzing noise and a great explosion some yards away that knocked the breath out of us. I actually saw the shrapnel coming and flung myself down on to the ground.

"There was a bubble of flame and another explosion. A little late we realized that the vehicle was an Israeli tank and that it was firing at us. Someone shouted, 'Get in the car! Get in the car!' Two Lebanese farmers came running from nowhere and we pulled them in with us. There was another bang and the car moved with the blast.

"We all kept shouting, 'Go, go, go!' and 'Zig-zag, zig-zag, zig-zag!' because, I suppose, we had heard it at the cinema in some war film. The next round blew the back of the car into the air and set it down again and then we were away."

Fisk had had a tape recorder running at the start of the attack, and the moment is enshrined in sound. You can hear Fisk, voice distorted with stress, trying to say that he is under tank fire, but his voice is interrupted by the crash of explosions. And, since at one point he had the recorder and the microphone clutched to his chest, there is the unbelievably loud sound of his heart – thump, thump, thump – dominating all else.

To say that this incident was a typical one in the life of the *Times* Middle East correspondent would be an exaggeration. But in the eight years that Fisk has spent there, largely covering the war in Lebanon, danger has been a constant companion. And, as the Crimea was for William Howard Russell in the 1850s, Lebanon has become the key experience in Fisk's life, the place where he realized that, within journalism, his true *métier* was reporting war.

There are, of course, less risky ways of doing this, but Fisk says that the American correspondent Ed Cody, who was with Associated Press in Lebanon during the 1976 civil war, set the standard: "The only way to cover a war is to go out and watch it, travel around it, whatever the danger." (Or, as Russell put it, "All that a newspaper correspondent wants is to see what is done and to describe it to the best of his ability.")

Following this dictum has brought Fisk fame and peer recognition—he has won six major press awards, including the top one, Journalist of



William Howard Russell, taken in the Crimea by the pioneer photographer Roger Fenton in 1855. Russell adopted his distinctive miscellaneous uniform after his servant absconded with his kit



Top: Russell photographed in Washington by Matthew Brady in 1861, during the American Civil War. Above: pages from Russell's Crimea sketchbook, showing the Russian base at Kertch

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Above: Russell's Crimea trench pass. Below: his despatch written the day after landing in the Crimea, describing conditions facing the troops. Right: scenes of the Crimean war photographed by Roger Fenton

From top: Cossak Bay, Balaclava; the cookhouse of the 8th Hussars; General Sir George Brown, commander of the Light Division (Infantry), and his staff at Sebastopol; a view of the plateau of Sebastopol

FRIDAY, SEIT. 15.

Few of us will ever forget last night. Seldom were 27,000 Englishmen more miserable. The beach was almost cleared, the troops had marched off to their several quarters, the Light Division about six miles in advance, the 1st Division two miles nearer the ahore, the 2d Division on the elife and hills, and a part of the 3d Division on the elife and hills, and a part of the 3d Division on the elife and hills, and a part of the 3d Division on the elife in the constant of the miles of the hill. No tents were sent on shore, partly because there was no certainty of our being able to find carriage for them. Towards night the sky looked very black and lowering; the wind rose, and the rain fell. The showers increased in violence about midnight, and early in the morning the water fell in drenching abeets, which pierced through the blankets and greatcoats of the houseless and tent trial enough in all conscience, worse than all their experiences of Bulgaria or Gallipoli, for there they had their tents, and now they learned to value their canvas coverings at their true worth. Imagine all these old Generals and young lords and gentlemen

exposed hour after hour to the violence of pitiless storms, with no bed but the reeking puddle under the saturated blankets or bits of useless waterproof wrappers, and the twenty old thousand of poor fellows who could not get "dry bits" of ground, and had to sleep, or try to sleep, in little lochs and watercourses—no fire to cheer them, no hot grog, and the prospect of no breakfast;—imagine this, and add toit that the nice "change of linen" had become a wet abomination, which weighted the poor men's kits down, and you will admit that this "seasoning" was of rather a violent character—particularly as it came after all the luxuries of dry ship stowage. Sir George Brown slept under a cart tilted over. The Duke had some similar contrivance. Sir be L. Evans was the only General whose staff had been careful enough to provide him with a tent. In one respect the rain was of service; it gave then a temporary supply of water, but then it put a fire out of the question, even if the men could have scraped up wood to make it. The country is, however, quite destitute of timber.

During the night it blew freshly from the west,









he Year, and has four times been named Internaional Reporter of the Year. It has made him riends and enemies – the Syrians have accused him of "making up" a story, the Israelis of writing 'baseless and irresponsible reports". It is a loney, exhausting, demanding life. But, Fisk says, his is what he always wanted to do and he would have it no other way.

While Fisk was still at school in Kent, he wrote to he editor of *The Times* about a job. He had ruled out engine driving and the merchant navy, resisted his father's attempts to persuade him to be a doctor or a lawyer, and decided that he wanted to be a journalist. "I think I liked the immediacy of he thing, the idea that one could be a witness to great events without being a participant."

His school took *The Times*, and Fisk, a regular reader, decided that its seriousness made it the paper best suited for what, even then, he expected to be his world-shaking reports. The editor's reply rather disappointed him. Yes indeed, the letter said, there might one day be a chance of a position on *The Times* – in the

dvertising department.

Although the young Fisk did not know it, his attitude was quite in keeping with *Times* radition. In 1841, when Russell, with whose areer that of Fisk has many similarities, discused a job in journalism with the treasurer of *The Times*, WFA Delane, he too came away dispointed. "[Delane] suggested I should...hold nyself at the disposal of *The Times*... but he did not make any definite proposal."

The trouble was, as Alan Hankinson, Rusell's biographer, has aptly put it, there has always been a mystique – naturally fostered by the nanagement – that working for *The Times* is not o much a job as a way of life, akin to membership of an exclusive, dedicated order, implying a presige that far outweighs any shortcomings in pay.

Russell had persevered and, now, so did Fisk. He joined the Evening Chronicle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in its Blythe, North-imberland, district office at £17.50 a week, overing magistrates' courts, Women's Institutes, and ladies' lifeboat guild meetings. After ix months he got a place at Lancaster University and began working for the Sunday Express in London, travelling up on the night sleeper on

Friday and returning on Sunday night (which is why he knows the name of every station between Euston and Morecambe by heart).

Like Russell, he had a spell away from journalism as a teacher. Russell's term at Kensington Grammar School came to an end because he spent his nights among the clubs and taverns of Covent Garden and St Martin's Lane, staggering off to school as the sun was rising. Fisk's three months at a boys' school near Chatham offered the dangers of war correspondence without the rewards: "One boy staged a rooftop protest because I made him read *Macbeth*."

In the end, both men secured their place on *The Times* because of their reporting of the Irish troubles. Russell had reported the elections in Ireland in 1841 – and had received a nasty kick in the scrotum while doing so – but it was his work covering the sedition trial of Daniel O'Connor that marked the beginning of his long-term relationship with the paper. Fisk was sent to Northern Ireland a bare three weeks after joining the paper and went to live in Belfast as Northern Ireland correspondent 11 months later.

It was an important step in his career. "At the time, no one really thought of the conflict there as a war, but you didn't have to be there for long to realize that this is what it was. I saw my first gun battle in Belfast, had my car hijacked by gunmen for the first time in Belfast, saw dead bodies for the first time in Belfast. I also learnt a lot about propaganda there; not just the IRA lies but the lies peddled by the authorities as well, the untruthful statements by the British army."

After transferring to the foreign staff of *The Times* Fisk was in Portugal covering the aftermath of the revolution, sending his story from a little post office by the sea with chickens clucking behind the counter, when the foreign editor, Louis Heren, came on the line and said, "We want you to go to the Middle East." (Russell's editor, John Thadeus Delane, sent him off to war in a similar low-key manner, telling him that he had "a very agreeable excursion" for him.)

Fisk rapidly learnt what the next years in the Middle East were going to be like. On the plane into Beirut a few days later the stewardess announced that there were no catering facilities because of the war. She handed out bottles of whisky instead, remarking that the passengers would need it. "Welcome to Lebanon," the immigration officer said to Fisk, and there, just behind his counter, was a corpse with the blood still running from it.

The next years were a blur of battle and strife. Fisk covered the 1976 civil war, the aftermath of the Iranian revolution, the holding of the US hostages in Tehran, the Iraqi invasion of Iran, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1978 and again in 1982, including the massacres at Sabra and Chatila by Israel's militia allies.

It is Lebanon that grips him like no other story. "One of the most important things to remember in Lebanon is that there are no good guys. Reporters sometimes arrive in Beirut with a kind of built-in 'spin', a belief that the Palestinians or the Syrians or the Israelis are the good guys. I saw a French reporter give a victory sign to the Palestinian guerrillas when they were evacuating Beirut. I thought that was disgusting.

cuating Beirut. I thought that was disgusting.

"I listened to a correspondent telling an Israeli officer that of course he sympathized with the Israelis. I felt the same disgust. If reporters want to take sides in Lebanon then they should give up journalism and join the army of their choice. The fact of the matter is that there are no good guys in Lebanon – they're all bad. If you don't think that then you should fly home on the next plane."

For Russell, of course, it was more difficult to remain objective about the war he was covering. He was with a British and French expeditionary force fighting the Russians and he was expected to be "on side". Yet his reports on the conduct of the war, the conditions for the troops, and the incompetence of the British military cast were largely responsible for the recall of the commander, Lord Raglan, and the toppling of the Government of the day.

Russell was moved by the plight of the ordinary soldier, caught up in events beyond his

Below: Russell's account of the first stage of the battle of Balaclava, in 1854, when the Russian cavalry was repelled by the 'thin red streak' of the 93rd Highlanders, a phrase which, as 'the thin red line', became a cliché of Victorian jingoism. But only hours later came 'the melancholy catastrophe': the Charge of the Light Brigade (left)



the Charge of the Light Brigade (left). The heavy brigade in advance is drawn up is two lines. The finst line consists of the Socts Grays and of their index on the Socts Brainkilleas; the second of the 4th Royal Irish, of the 5th Dragoon Cased, and of the Ist Royal Dragoons. The Light Caralyr Brigade is on their left, in two lines also. The sileage is opportunity; between the cangon bursts ong can hearthe champing of bits and the clink of sabres in the valley below. The Reusians on their left drews breath for a moment, and then in one grand line dashed at the Highbandra. The ground flips beneath for a moment, and then in one grand line dashed at the Highbandra. The ground flips beneath for a moment, and then in one grand line bands the first of the same of the sam





















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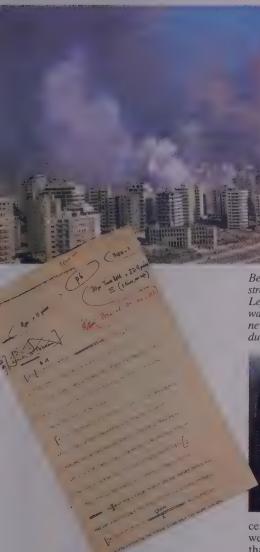












Below: Robert Fisk at his desk in Beirut, where the streets are frequently the front line.
Left: a despatch sent by Fisk from Iran in 1979. It was destined for an issue of The Times, never published, to have been printed in Frankfurt during the paper's 11-month closure



comprehension, suffering without complaint because that was what was expected of him. He provided the voice, and *The Times* the platform, and did it so effectively that one of Russell's colleagues later wrote of him: "In his hands correspondence from the field really became a power from which generals began to quail."

Fisk, too, is moved by the lot of the ordinary soldier in the murderous anarchy of Lebanon. In the summer of 1982 he was covering an Israeli air raid on West Beirut. The planes were bombing somewhere around the Bourj al-Barajneh camp and Fisk and two of his colleagues found themselves on the airport road. It was an unpleasant blace to be. Great fingers of smoke stretched into the sky from bombed-out apartment blocks, and artillery shells from Israeli gunboats screeched overhead.

While his colleagues went further down the road to get a better view of the gunboats, Fisk went to see a Syrian tank dug in near a smashed supermarket. In foxholes in front of it were two Syrian soldiers, steel helmets on, and as Fisk approached one of them shouted a friendly "Hi!"

Fisk was puzzled. "The Syrians were usually very suspicious of us and not so communicative. I suddenly realized that these two soldiers wanted some human contact, even just a hello from a stranger, because they were virtually

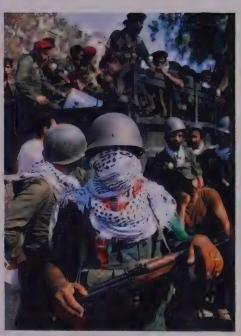
certain to be killed in the next raid. The Israelis were carpeting the area and must have had that tank on their reconnaissance photographs.

"Just as I realized this, I heard the planes coming around again. I should have crossed the road and said a quick hello to the Syrian soldiers, but I didn't. I was too frightened. I would have had time, a minute or more. But I didn't go. I ran away and left them there. I drove off with the others to my flat down the coast.

"But I couldn't forget them and later I went back. The tank had been bombed and the two soldiers had been carbonized in their foxholes. I'll always regret that I didn't cross the road to them. I'll always remember that I didn't go."

Fisk works out of the Associated Press bureau in Beirut, a fourth-floor office in the west of the city with a first-class news reporting team (four Americans, six Lebanese, a Palestinian, a Jordanian, and an Iranian), and a wizard in charge of communications who can make computers work during power cuts, and who feeds electricity to the telephone exchange when its batteries are down so that the bureau's own telephones can carry on working.

He gets around in the *Times* car, an old VW Golf, starting his day often at 6am because there are so many military checkpoints to pass to get to where the action is, then back again to transmit the story. He frequently works until midnight, so what little spare time he has he spends sleeping. He is unmarried, and at 38 well able to stand the



pace. Yet one wonders what it is that binds him so tightly to work that tends to show man at his bloody worst.

Even Russell, "the miserable parent of a luckless tribe", sometimes wondered what it was all about. He once wrote to his wife: "Oh, dear Mary, the kind, good friends I have lost, the dear companions of many a ride and walk and lonely hour – I have seen them buried as they lay all bloody on the hillside amid their ferocious enemies, and I could not but exclaim in all bitterness of heart, 'Cursed is he that delighteth in war'."

Fisk agrees with this sentiment but says that the war in Lebanon is there, the world should know about it, and the press remains the best and most impartial way of telling the story. And, anyway, there is the occasional moment in which a tiny ray of hope and humanity breaks through.

In 1980 Fisk sought out in Lebanon a number of Palestinians who still had the legal deeds to their houses, land and fields in what was Palestine and is now Israel, people who were not PLO members or activists of any kind. Then he went to Israel and knocked on the front doors of what used to be their homes and talked to the Israelis who now live there. "It was, in a way," says Fisk, "like touching history."

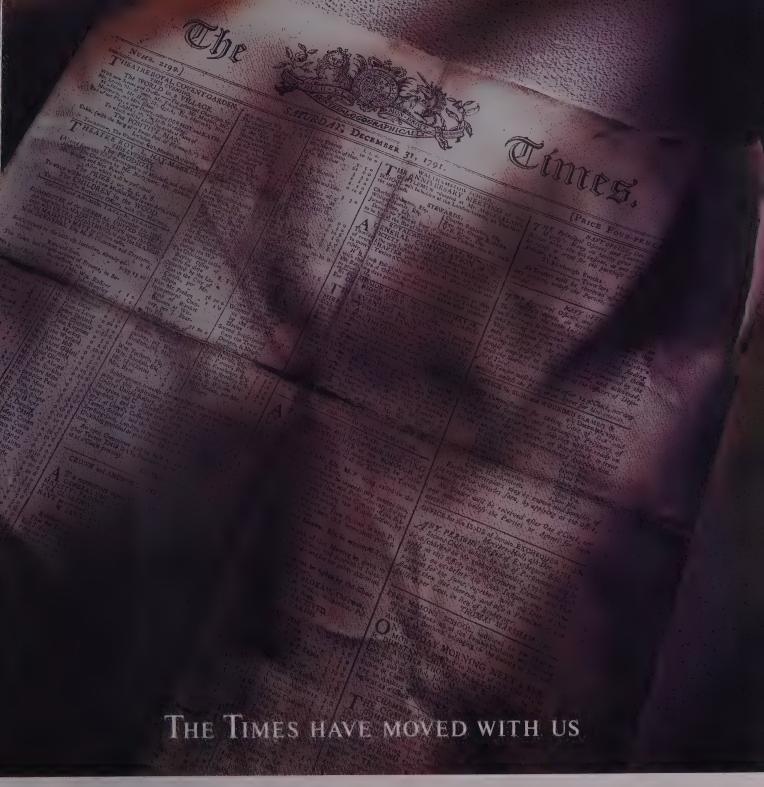
He went to one house in Jaffa. It had once been owned by a Palestinian who now lives in West Beirut. It is now occupied by an elderly Israeli who survived the Holocaust even though the Nazis killed a hundred members of his family. Fisk told him about the original owner. "The Israeli was a very kind man and he was obviously moved to hear about the Palestinian and of how he had fled in 1948. He wanted me to take a message to him, and I did. Now the two men, Arab and Jew, know all about each other and I don't think they bear each other any enmity."

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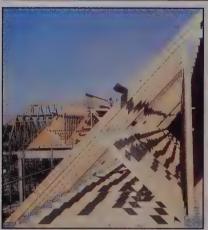
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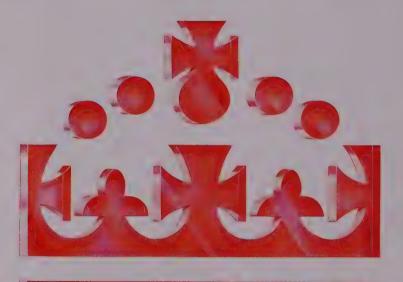
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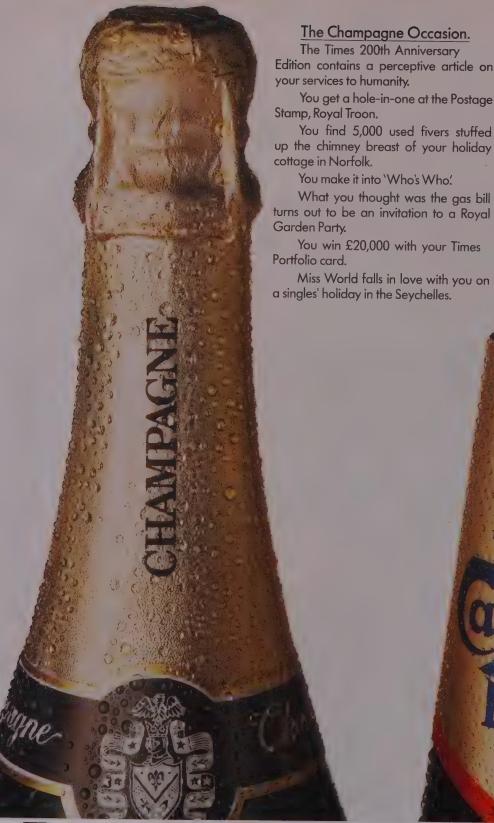
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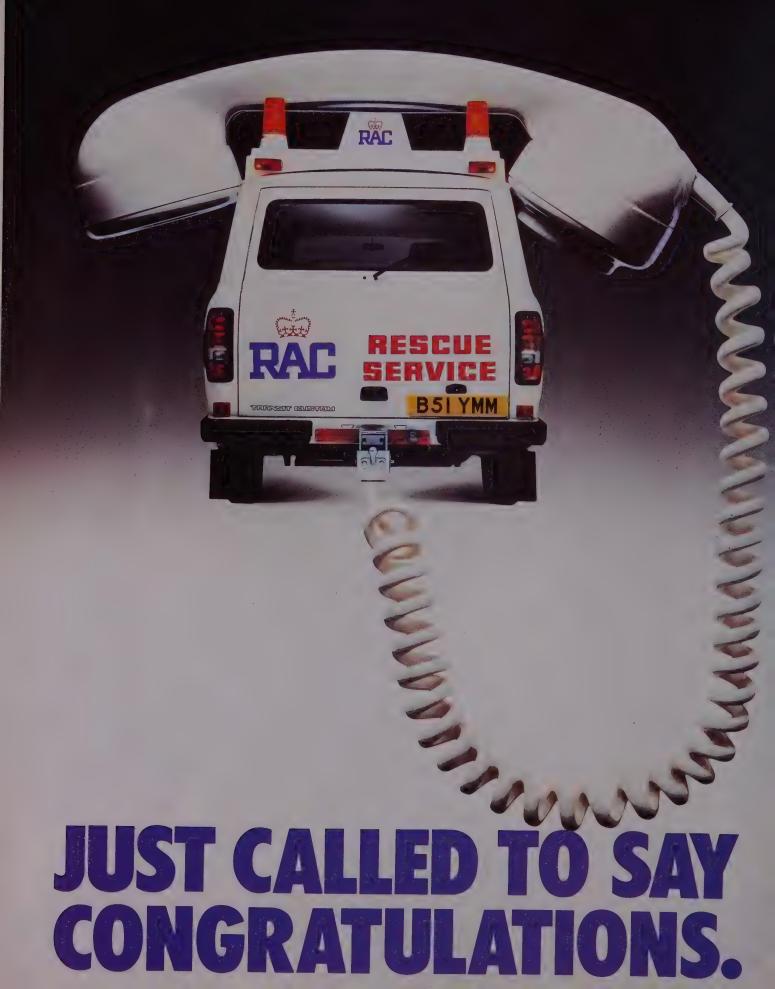
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our father has sacrificed us all on that damned redbrick altar of his in Printing House Square!" my mother would cry in despair as another lovingly prepared supper was burnt or left to go cold by his delayed arrival home.

My mother was an ex-actress and, as such, prone to mild exaggeration. The red-brick altar to which she referred was *The Times*. It was not our father's property in any way: it belonged at that time to the Hon. John Jacob Astor, and we weren't sacrificed. Verymuch

Hon. John Jacob Astor, and we weren't sacrificed. Verymuch.

From our earliest days my sister and brother and I were made aware that whatever happened we had to take second place to The Páper: it really caused us very little grief, and we were proud to be known as "newspaper children". If we didn't completely understand the reasons for the sacrifices which we had to make on occasions, we accepted them anyway as inevitable. Anything, and indeed everything, could be, and often was, set aside, postponed, rearranged or sometimes forgotten to suit the capricious whims and demands of our rival.

Nightly the telephone would ring with the news of kings falling from mountain peaks, train crashes in Scotland, assassinations in Bolivia or floods in India: all this went completely over our heads, naturally, but a marvellous sense of excitement was always in the air.

Birthdays, pantomimes, summer holidays, even Christmas trees suffered from these sudden shrill alarms, but we managed to survive the blows with equanimity. Our mother suffered rather more, for she was the one who had to cope with ruined meals, dinner parties, first nights: anything which she had planned or had looked forward to enjoying with my father.

Many were the times that she sat alone and furious in the foyer of some theatre, having missed the first act and in despair that her husband might not arrive to catch even the second. He was putting The Paper to bed: and that, depending on the state of the news, could be at any time of the night. It was the main fact in our existences, which we all had to

But if The Paper was his life, he made certain that we shared a part of it with him. We grew to love it. The art department, which he founded, became as familiar to us as our own home. We had tea-parties there, with sugar buns and hot sweet tea in thick china cups from tin trays; we watched the Lord Mayor's Show from its windows.

I knew every tear in the corridor linoleum, every inch of the chocolate-coloured pipes which writhed like jointed macaroni overhead and along the walls, every

PICTURE MAN

DIRK BOGARDE

introduces a selection of historic photographs from The Times with a profile of his father Ulric Van den Bogaerde art editor for 35 years



Dirk Bogarde, taken by his father in 1939, before an Old Vic audition



UV Bogaerde working at his desk in the Times art department in 1933



Damage to West Hartlepool in 1914, caused by bombardment from the sea: one of many pictures taken by Bogaerde for the 21-volume Times History of the War

grimy window, each crack in the bilious cream distemper of the walls. The smell of dust, printers' ink, cardboard, newsprint, all overlaid by the heavy scent of sour pipe tobacco smoke, is instantly recallable.

smoke, is instantly recallable.

We collected an astonishing number of "uncles", particularly from the ranks of photographers. I knew every familiar face, and had

known them, I suppose, from the earliest moments of recognition, for they are a part of my earliest remembrances.

Right up to the beginning of the war I went there almost every week to borrow a florin or, better still, half a crown, to get me through a difficult time. My "uncles" were fleeced almost as often as my harassed

father, who sometimes found, on my sheepish visits, that he had only notes in his wallet.

In mild despair, picking abstractedly at the side of his nose, he would turn to one of his team, murmuring: "Budge? Any small change on you? A florin? Half a crown? I seem only to have notes today." And Budge found a coin.

It was the time of surnames, much like school. Greenwood, Horton, Bell, Budge, Grimwade, O'Gorman, Warhurst (whose son is still with *The Times*). All were "touched". All gave willingly. Or at any rate with good humour and kindness, saving me from being chucked out of my lodgings or enabling me to pay for a couple of meals.

How grateful I was, and still am, to them. Not only for their largesse, but for the enormous pleasure of their company on many a journey which we made together to "take

photographs".

To tighten the bond between his children and his paper, my father sent us off on some of the less demanding photographic sessions "in the field". This was quite deliberate: he had determined ideas about my future. The sooner I got to know what was expected of me, he reasoned, the better.

I suppose that the Christmas Photograph ranked as one of the jolliest assignments, if not the most important.

Sometime in November my father would start to become restless; telephone calls were made the length and breadth of the country to ascertain if there was any snow, had been any, or was likely to be any.

Photographers were sent off to distant corners and told to huddle there until there was a snowfall. A good hoar frost was acceptable; snow was desirable above all. They sat about from Barra to the Lizard for weeks, waiting.

Planters in Ceylon or India, far-

Planters in Ceylon or India, farmers in Africa or soldiers in Singapore, all would be shown a reminder of Britain at this festive season. So there had to be snow.

My sister and I were often sent out on these "jobs" (if the places were fairly local, such as Hindhead or Ditchling Beacon), and used to give a little "movement" or "interest" to the scene (back to camera at all times) by carting about faggots, or hauling at far too heavy logs; frozen, grumbling, glum and hungry, waiting for the light to be absolutely right.

Sun breaking through thin cloud was greatly favoured because it thrust down in wide rays of light and sparkled on the snow or frost. Horton or Warhurst and my father would stamp about, obviously impervious to the bitter chill, looking up at the sky through filters and yelling out their readings to each other.



MIDDLE TAR As defined by H.M. Government DANGER; Government Health WARNING; CIGARETTES CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH





Nothing less than full perfection was permitted by my father. We all knew that. However, often we were quite unconscious of the importance of the job in hand. Mucking about in small boats in Falmouth harbour, I did not know that he and his team were out there in an old tug, experimenting with the first underwater photography. Successfully.

Standing about on the downs above Portsmouth, whining in a bitter wind, longing for the promised picnic of sausage rolls and Thermostea, I did not know that he was trying out the first infra-red camera and that shortly, in The Paper, I should see, not the haze and greyness presently all about me, but the entire Isle of Wight miles away, sparkling in splendour and full, clear detail.

Nor could I know, hunched in awe in the darkness of a box at Covent Garden, that he was photographing movement on a stage, without "blurring" or "fuzziness", under normal theatre lighting, for the first time ever. Before this, every theatrical photograph had to be posed and held. The results were always static and lifeless. My father's most treasured possession was a letter from Pavlova, who wrote to thank him, expressing her joy and amazement at being able to see at last exactly how she moved in dance.

She sent for him to explain the technique to her and, as a token of her gratitude, she gave him a pair of ballet shoes in which she had danced Swan Lake.

My father was a true Edwardian: reticent, quiet, modest to a fault, calm, charming and maddeningly stubborn.

He had started drawing pictures for The Times in 1912, under the ownership of Lord Northcliffe (who glared down at us from a sepia photograph in his study). He became its first photographer in 1914, and after the war, in 1919, he was made its first art editor. By 1922, on the initiative of Northcliffe, he had a full page of photographs six days a week, plus the Weekly Edition.



My father never insisted. He persuaded. He almost always got his way in the end. He refused to give in on an idea, or a hunch, and hung on with grim, silent determination, unruffled, with extreme good manners and easy charm. To his closest friends he was known as "Bogie", to some others as "Ulric", to the irreverent just as "CD".

This stood for "Constant Dripping Wears Away the Stone", which is precisely what he did, and how he functioned all his life. He never gave in, as far as I remember, and he never allowed anyone else to give in either. He persuaded with a calm, unshakable belief and that implacable stubbornness which drove some people to bang their heads against walls; but he won out.

His courtesy, gentleness, his amused certainty that he was right got him through some staggering battles, for many of his ideas and suggestions were considered outrageous or impracticable.

When he asked a Midlands firm to make him a lens with an aperture of F2 to photograph movement on stage, they did so reluctantly. It worked. When he asked them to make it larger, to cover a half-plate, they insisted that it simply could not be done. But as he said in his speech on the day of his retirement, "After due persuasion it was produced."

That was very typical of my father. This particular moment of persuasion produced a lens which

altered the concept of photography not only in the theatre and the concert hall, but in the cinema all over the world. From that moment on, instead of being forced to shoot scenes in a blaze of shattering light, or under the pitiless glare of the Californian desert sun, film-makers were at last able to work in what my father called "halftones", and shadows became fashionable rather than inevitable.

An Edwardian he was, but at the same time very much a man of the future. In 1924 and 1925 he worked with James Logie Baird in the latter's attic studio in London's Frith Street, my mother standing pafiently in yards of cloth of different colours while they tried to transmit living pictures of her from one room to the other. It didn't work out just then: but they were on the very brink, and thus Mr William Taynton, an office boy from the floor below, and not my mother, became the first person to be televised live.

My father had been convinced that it would happen; he also knew that one day is would be done in colour, not just in black and white. Far left: lowering an experimental camera into Falmouth harbour 1935 Left: a classic Times snowscene for the Christmas Photograph: the edge of Ashdown Forest, December 1938 Below: Bogaerde (foreground) and three of his photographers in 1950; left to right, Budge, O'Gorman and Warhurst

Colour was his dream. He had started experimenting with it as early as 1931 for use in the Weekly Edition and was determined that one day he would see his beloved picture page in all the colours of the spectrum. Unhappily for him, he reached the official retirement age at The Times before he could see this dream become a fact. But he left behind him a group of loyal believers who carried on his work.

As a father, purely and simply, away from the red-brick altar, on the rare holidays which he allowed himself to take with us, he was fun, inventive, loving, in a faintly preoccupied manner. He relished his food, good claret, his fast open tourer (cars, and fast ones, were perhaps his second great passion in life). We took trips to France, where he taught us how to eat an oyster, deal with an artichoke and enjoy wine (served in sherry glasses with a lot of water). He taught us, too, to observe colour and light. We watched him paint his landscapes (he was a good, if limited, artist) and we listened to music. A civilized man. We really didn't do so badly

I think that he lost only two major battles in his life: battles of the deepest importance to him. One was the furious struggle he made to avoid being retired; the other was with me.

It raged for years. It was his intention, from the moment that I took my first breath, that I should follow him into *The Times* and become its second art editor. I rejected this chance from the start and escaped the red-brick altar, He discovered, a little wrily, that I had inherited from him the one quality which had made him the man he was and the Picture Page what it became: stubbornness.

When, many years later, I asked him, over a decent Bordeaux, if it had really been a very great blow to him, he just shrugged lightly and smiled, his head to one side.

"At the time, yes," he said. "But you know, my dear boy, you simply can't hand on your mistress to your son. And *The Times* was my mistress. I loved her very, very much. I can't forget her, you see."

10) me



On the following pages are some of the memorable images which have appeared in *The Times*. Above are Contessa Nettel cameras used by two *Times* photographers, Bill Warhurst Snr and Bill Warhurst Jnr



1922 THE FIRST PICTURE PAGE, AS OPPOSED TO OCCASIONAL PHOTOGRAPH, APPEARED ON MARCH 2. AT 8AM ON MARCH 1 NORTHCLIFFE TELEPHONED UV BOGAERDE, ORDERING HIM TO PREPARE A FULL PAGE OF NEWS PICTURES FOR THE NEXT DAY'S PAPER. AT MIDDAY BOGAERDE TOOK THE PROOF, STILL WET, TO NORTHCLIFFE'S HOME. 'IT WILL DO,' SAID THE CHIEF, AND THE PAGE BECAME A DAILY FIXTURE

1925 A PIONEERING PICTURE OF ANNA PAVLOVA DANCING IN THE FAIRY DOLL AT COVENT GARDEN, THE CULMINATION OF BOGAERDE'S ATTEMPTS TO PHOTOGRAPH STAGE PERFORMANCES, AND PEOPLE AT NIGHT, USING AVAILABLE LIGHT INSTEAD OF 'HARD AND UNNATURAL' FLASHLIGHT. FOR HIS COVENT GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHS HE COMMISSIONED SPECIAL FAST PLATES AND AN F2 LENS







1927 THE WIRELESS PICTURE PUBLISHED TO MARK THE START OF THE TRANSATLANTIC COMMERCIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE. THE OWNER OF THE NEW YORK TIMES, ADOLPH S. OCHS, IS MAKING A CALL TO THE TIMES

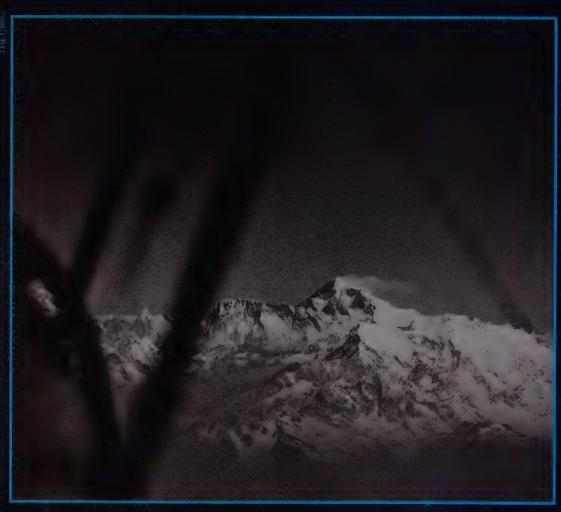
1930 GEORGE V OPENS THE NAVAL DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE IN THE ROYAL GALLERY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

1930 INFRA-RED PHOTOGRAPHY WAS JUST ONE OF THE PROCESSES WITH WHICH BOGAERDE EXPERIMENTED. INFRA-RED PLATES OFFERED EXCEPTIONAL 'HAZE PENETRATION' AND A CLARITY PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN. ONE OF THE EARLIEST SUCH PHOTOGRAPHS WAS THE ISLE OF WIGHT TAKEN FROM A HEIGHT OF 18,000FT. THE PROMONTORY OF BEACHY HEAD, AT THE TOP LEFT, IS SOME 90 MILES AWAY, WITH THE KENT COAST BEYOND









1933 THE FIRST AERIAL
PHOTOGRAPH OF MOUNT EVEREST,
TAKEN IN HIGH WINDS WHICH
WHIPPED THE SNOW OFF THE
SUMMIT, THE FLIGHT WAS
SPONSORED BY LADY HOUSTON, A
PATRIOTIC MILLIONAIRE RECLUSE

1934 BELOW RIGHT: GEORGE V
AT SANDRINGHAM, WITH THE
MICROPHONES HE WAS TO USE FOR
THE FIRST CHRISTMAS BROADCAST.
BOGAERDE HAD A LIFELONG PASSION
FOR COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY AND HAD
MANY PICTURES TAKEN, SOME OF
WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN THE
PAPER'S WEEKLY EDITION

1936 BELOW: THE CRYSTAL PALACE.
IN SYDENHAM, BEING DESTROYED
BY FIRE ON THE NIGHT
OF NOVEMBER 30.
THE BLAZE, ACCORDING TO THE
ORIGINAL CAPTION, 'PRESENTED A
STRIKING SPECTACLE'

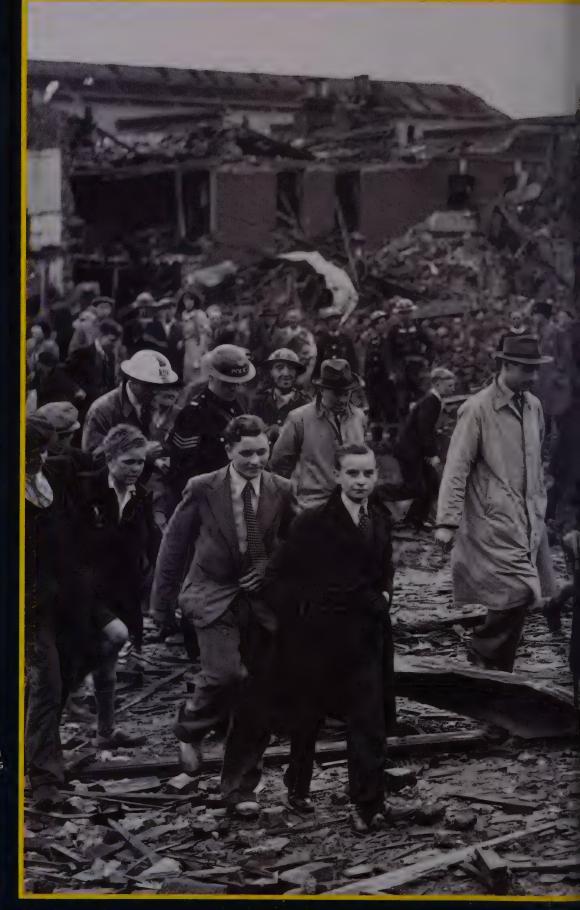
1936 RIGHT; UNREST IN
BARCELONA FOLLOWING THE
GENERAL ELECTION WHICH LED TO
THE FORMATION OF A LEFT-WING
GOVERNMENT AND, WITHIN MONTHS,
TO THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR







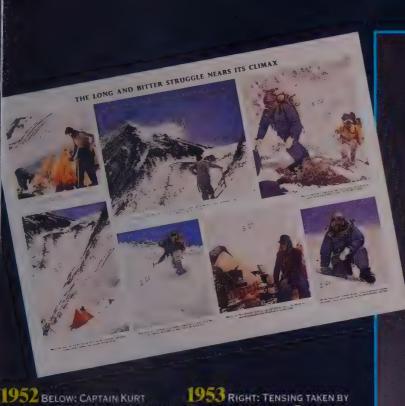




1940 WINSTON CHURCHILL,
FOLLOWED BY THE BOWLER-HATTED
SIR KINGSLEY WOOD, CHANCELLOR
OF THE EXCHEQUER, INSPECTS BOMB
DAMAGE IN BATTERSEA THE MORNING
AFTER A RAID. BEFORE THE WAR
CHURCHILL HAD NEVER BEEN A
FAVOURITE OF THE EDITOR,
GEOFFREY DAWSON, BUT IN HIS
LAST LEADING ARTICLE, IN
SEPTEMBER 1941, DAWSON WROTE
SYMBOLICALLY: 'SO FAR AS ANY
MAN IN THE WORLD CAN BE
REGARDED AS INDISPENSABLE,
MR CHURCHILL HAS EARNED THAT
MUCH-ABUSED TITLE'







1952 BELOW: CAPTAIN KURT
CARLSEN WAVES FROM HIS STRICKEN
VESSEL. THE FLYING ENTERPRISE,
HIS HEROISM AND SALVAGE ATTEMPTS
BY THE TUG TURMOIL GRIPPED THE
NATION FOR A FORTNIGHT UNTIL THE
SHIP SANK. FOR THIS PICTURE TO BE
TAKEN THE PILOT WENT DOWN
THROUGH CLOUD TO 50FT.

1953 RIGHT: TENSING TAKEN BY HILLARY AT THE TOP OF EVEREST. BELOW RIGHT: RELAXING AT CAMP IV ON THE DESCENT. ABOVE: PAGES FROM A TIMES SOUVENIR.

1953 LEFT: THE QUEEN, IN THE GOLDEN STATE COACH, RETURNS TO THE PALACE AFTER HER CORONATION







1966 TOP RIGHT: THE MOON TAKEN FROM A HEIGHT OF 28.4 MILES BY THE PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY LUNAR ORBITER TWO IN A SEARCH FOR FUTURE LANDING SITES. FROM FOREGROUND TO HORIZON IS ABOUT 150 MILES

1968 RIGHT: THE EARTH AS SEEN OVER THE MOON'S HORIZON. PHOTOGRAPHED BY THE CREW OF APOLLO 8 OVER CHRISTMAS, IT FORMED THE FRONT PAGE OF A SPECIAL COLOUR SUPPLEMENT ON JANUARY 6, 1969

1969 WHEN MAN FINALLY LANDED ON THE MOON IN JULY (BELOW), THE TIMES RUSHED OUT A SPECIAL 5AM EDITION (ABOVE)











1969 LEFT: THE ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY ON GUARD IN LONDONDERRY AS FIREMEN PUT OUT PETROL BOMB FIRES

1968 ABOVE: THE PAGE OF PHOTOGRAPHS RECORDING THE ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IN LOS ANGELES







1968 FAR LEFT: PARIS POLICE WEARING STEEL HELMETS AND CARRYING GLASS FIBRE SHIELDS ASSEMBLE ON THE BOULEVARD ST MICHEL DURING THE STUDENT RIOTS

1968 LEFT: PRAGUE ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 21 AS PEOPLE TAKE STOCK AFTER THE INVASION BY SOVIET TROOPS IN THE EARLY HOURS. THE TANKS ARE GUARDING THE RADIO STATION



1970 LEFT: A STUDENT KNEELS BY THE BODY OF A CLASSMATE ON THE CAMPUS OF KENT STATE UNIVERSITY, OHIO, AFTER NATIONAL GUARDSMEN FIRED INTO A CROWD OF ANTI-VIETNAM WAR DEMONSTRATORS

1976 RIGHT: WITH THE TORIES IN OPPOSITION, MRS THATCHER, THE PARTY LEADER, AND THREE FORMER PRIME MINISTERS — LORD HOME, MR HAROLD MACMILLAN AND MR EDWARD HEATH — TAKE A BREAK AT A BOW GROUP DINNER

1977 BELOW: POLICE CONFRONT A MASS PICKET DURING A DISPUTE OVER UNION RECOGNITION AT THE GRUNWICK PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING PLANT, LONDON

1982 BELOW RIGHT: THE FRIGATE HMS
ANTELOPE EXPLODES IN SAN CARLOS BAY AFTER
BEING HIT BY ARGENTINE BOMBS DURING THE
FALKLANDS WAR



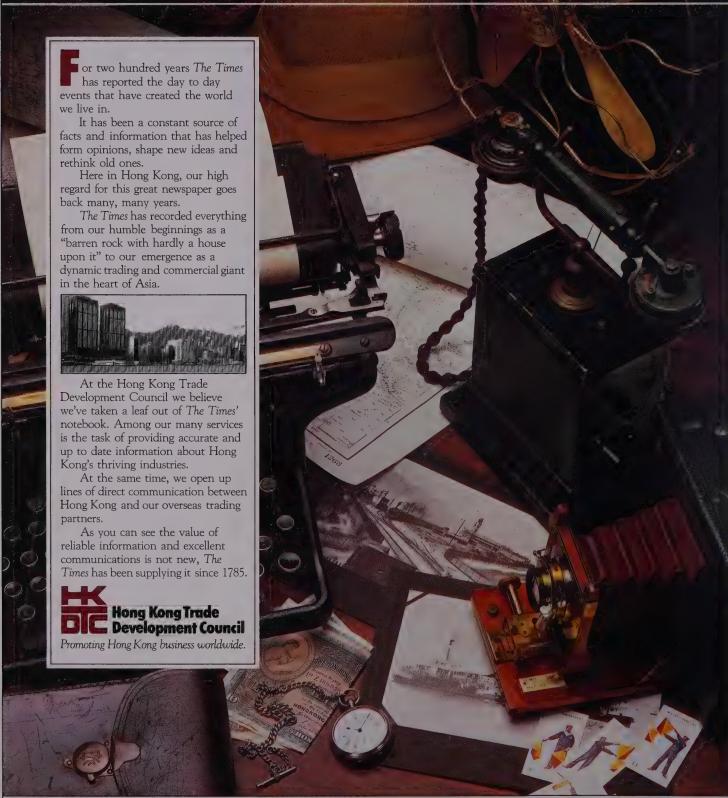




1981 HAIR-RAISING SCHEDULES CREATED THE SPECIAL FRONT PAGE THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING OF PRINCE CHARLES AND LADY DIANA



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION



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From the Agony Column to the Letters, some of the most idiosyncratic features of The Times have been the most celebrated. Here we explore their mysteries

Before sitting down to write this article, I read a good many other articles about the gony Column in *The Times* and it's ard to escape the conclusion that ost of them were copied one from tother without much time spent oking at the Agony Column itself.

They all mention Peter Fleming, ho, in 1933, when literary editor of the Spectator, answered a Times personal ad and shortly thereafter and himself going up the Amazon oking for Colonel Fawcett and bout to embark on his travel

ing career.

They all quote agonized mothers dvertising desperately for missing ons, usually the same one from

out 1800.

They are all very fond of the man ho, in 1798, proposed himself as an icellent prospective husband apart om having "an incurable weakness the knees, occasioned by the ck of an ostrich".

And they all like to mention the ost mysterious series of ads known *The Times*. The first appeared in 49: "No doormat tonight." The cond appeared a year later: Doormat and beans tonight." The ird and final came another year ter: "Doormat tonight." To this by nobody has the faintest idea

hat they meant.

All true as far as it goes, but the ticles all manage at the same time create the quite false impression at once upon a time the *Times* gony Column was chock-a-block ith cryptic, agonized, tearful, joyl, eccentric messages which at one unstated date dried up, leaving a gony column like a deserted ver-bed. Even ES Turner, the best social journalists, created that impression in *Punch* in 1956 with a rvey of the column, not least with stitle, "The Decline of the Agony blumn".

The high tide of agony probably curred in the 1850s and 1860s, hen there were enough personal essages for one Alice Clay to pubh a whole bookful of them – this deed was when the public first cald it the Agony Column – yet even en the average daily number of ully personal messages was no high-

than three or four. By custom ese were put at the top of the colnn, followed by the less personal mouncements of things lost, hostals open, libraries acquiring new books, rail companies needing pasngers (or capital) and deserving uses needing almost anything.

No, The Times has never been nite the exchange and mart of emoons that nostalgics would like to



BY MILES KINGTON

John Walter, in launching The Daily Universal Register, welcomed all advertisers. Never, he said, would he be accused of 'opening the Register to one kind of advertising and shutting it against others'. It sometimes filled four-fifths of the paper. Personal announcements have appeared since the first issue and gradually came to fill the front page. In the mid-19th century the section was dubbed the Agony Column, having become a repository for cryptic messages and heart-rending appeals. In 1886 it was headed Personal. It was moved to page 2 in 1966

THREATENING LETTERS.—Several having been sent to Mr. Nash, in different handwritings, on the subject of the railway robberies and proceedings before Alderman Hughes Hughes, in Garrett's and Maynard's cases, TEN POUNDS will be paid for PROOF and TEN POUNDS for CONVICTION of the senders of any of the letters, and in each case. Apply to Mr. Collard, station, Paddington; or to Mr. Nash, 6, Frederick's place. Old Jewry. One posted Sept. 25, (advertised Oct. 2), containing this passage—"But if you persevere femnell and Co. are ready with more write, and there are more pistols than yours;" another, posted chief-office, Oct. 4; another, Walworthroad, Oct. 13, apparently the production of a talented person; and another, posted Oct. 18, in Holborn; of which three the following are facsimile extracts:—

Their le Mens we but the flash lapper that Desport - the Steam of the blade before it descends in the grant exhauts - the while in the choose before all is humbled in the choose of host the mild know out interlies beforehand as it common pre-

For the jury fore of demonstrating believes threate get any thing but call, and that phould the synaul of Carlant wifes to your officient metalling houself you pretend to a bentium growing you shall be forestly metally a bounder of save that prigning will a very them and respond your sea your clear in time to up have it all will be sall time to up have it all will be sall mad good a may still will be sall and soon to go may still will be sall and mad soon to go may still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on to go my still will be sall made on the sall was a benefit as a beauty as a larger can be expected.

Be warned in time,
there letters are but
melengers of the coming
thorm, harbingers of a
future revenue Iky on
are write for will
interpret them suisely
as trap is hard
for your so
look out
keep yours elf
buck from
my fremol
yoursett

For the Agony Column of October 22, 1845, The Times waived the rule against illustrated advertising to help a solicitor who had received anonymous letters

think. Nor has it been the only repository of messages; in Sherlock Holmes's day there were a good 10 papers, not counting evening newspapers, which would accept personal messages, and accept them up to 9pm the day before publication.

And yet, and yet, it is the *Times* personal column which has become and remained famous while the others have gone to dust. What has given it its peculiar flavour, I think, is

its sheer ordinariness, yet quirky ordinariness. Take this:

Dog-Lovers — Can anyone advise treatment for beloved healthy terrier who, after thirteen years of normality and indifference to gun-fire, for no apparent reason has suddenly become gun, wind and noise-shy? Write Box 38.

That comes from 1953, a year in which many personal ads offered for sale seats and windows overlooking the Coronation route. Go back to

1897 and you find just as many offering seats for the Diamond Jubilee, as well as a more uplifted ad:

God Save The Queen! If all were as keen for their soul's salvation as many were to see the Jubilee Procession, many more Gospel Halls would be wanted. Have you a seat in Heaven?

People have not changed a great deal in the 200 years since *The Times* started. For instance, there is a feeling that addiction is a thing we have only just started to talk about, and that alcoholism is a modern worry. But they were worried in 1953:

Alcoholism! Turvey Tonic treatment. Est. over 50 years, stops craving, improves health, restores normal joy of living. Write 6 Mandeville Place.

They were also worried in 1938: Alcoholic Excess and its treatment – Treatise free from 14 Hanover Square.

In 1908 they were worried about something even more modern:

Morphia Cocaine & Drug Habit. Medical man, with personal and practical experience, guarantees complete cure without suffering. Patients treated with secrecy in their private apartments, under no restraint.

That doormat series, and my own favourite gnomic ad - "Stop that piano!" from 1854 - might not have got into the paper today, because if a message is cryptic, or coded, or obscure, *The Times* demands an explanation before printing it. It was not always so. In the 1850s many of the messages were in formidable code because they were between lovers who could not communicate in any other way. Gentlemen would sit in their clubs for hours, it is said, amusing themselves by cracking the codes of young lovers (now there is the crossword to amuse them instead), and no doubt jealous fathers would do the same

At least one father is reputed to have replied to his daughter's young admirer using his very own code, telling him to push off, although how he could be sure that he was addressing his own daughter's lover, and not some other love affair altogether, I do not know.

In fact, even when a *Times* advertiser seems to spell out everything, it can create just as much mystery. As evidence I cite this little message, which was published in the paper of May 7, 1913:

If The Golfer who last week at St George's Sandwich held up every player on the links whilst he eulogised "The Maiden" as the "Greenest Spot on Mother Earth" will communicate with advertiser as below, he will receive a proposition that might possibly appeal to his sporting as well as to his poetic instincts. 057. The traditional ads proclaiming that a young man will "go anywhere, do anything" do exist, although I never found one with those words. From 1953 I can offer:

Adventurous and educated young man desires out of the rut job with opportunity to travel overseas.

And from 1938:

Young Englishman, frantic with financial worries, willing to do any work

At the other end of the scale, back in 1953, there appeared this ad: Elizabethan and Jacobean love songs. Gifted young gentleman, accompanying himself on the lute, can accept a limited number of engagements for private recitals.

In other words, young man, can do almost nothing, will go almost nowhere.

The cost of the advertisement normally does not affect the message, apart from its brevity - if it is important, then it must go in. But in 1917 there was a small crisis which passed unnoticed beside the larger disasters taking place across the Channel. A Mr Chisholm, who was the man in charge of the Lord Byron Trust, wrote to *The Times* to protest that the recently increased personal ad charges had placed him in an impossible situation. The trust existed to place an In Memoriam notice for Lord Byron in two papers and to lay an annual wreath. Their income for this purpose was £2 5s. With The Times's increased charges. their annual expenditure was now £2 8s. Could The Times not come to some special arrangement...?

The upshot was that *The Times* agreed on a special fee of 13s 6d, payable on the day when Byron died, and the arrangement holds good to this very day.

I came across the odd instance of full-blown emotional agony, like

this one from 1897:

I Have Got Well Again and I did so wish I might not. If I can start afresh now I will manage, and never come to you again. You know I was sorry to break my word, but it was such a struggle. Louis.

But most of the time there was a tinge of commercialism, which of course in its own way can also cause agony and emotion. In the single month of June 1897 we find Schweppes angrily announcing a change of label to avoid confusion with rivals, as well as the following *Private Eye*ish item:

Apology – to the Irish Independent. Gentlemen, I hereby APOLOGIZE and express my REGRETS for a STATE-MENT in the issue of my paper, the "Sligo Champion" of the 22nd May last year, that your company was about to be wound up and the publication of your papers stopped, and I admit that there was not the slightest foundation for any such statement...

That very same month Oscar

Leipziger announced his intention to become Oscar Lipscomb, perhaps to avoid confusion with Schweppes, and there also appeared the following proud boast:

Mitchell's Blue Hungarian Band – The renowned Original Gipsy Band from Buda Pesth ... New uniforms ... New music

Not much in itself, perhaps, but the very next ad stated:

Ashton's Blue Hungarian Band: Notto be confused with other so-called Hungarian Bands...

Once only, so far as I can make out, there was direct criticism of the readers of *The Times*, in an entry published on March 3, 1908:

My Two Advertisements on 24th to Devonians and Americans asking AID for our urgent need in REBUILDING east end of this "unique" church have not brought a single penny! Has Britain or America forgotten to be generous? Even "one shilling" from a multitude would finish our work—Heathcote Smith, St Michael's, Princetown, Dartmouth.

The dastardly suggestion that *Times* readers will not respond to urgent appeals is one, fortunately, that I can refute from my own experience. Ten years ago my Aunt Peggy dropped a hint to the effect that she was going slightly deaf and would welcome help from any quarter. Now, Aunt Peggy is a grand lady on whom an NHS hearing aid would look wrong, so I inserted an appeal in the *Times* personal column asking whether any kind reader had an ear trumpet for sale.

I received three replies. I visited all three applicants. One trumpet was so articulated as to look like a blown-up model of a prawn. The second was built of some very heavy metal which not even an uncle could have carried easily. The third was a masterpiece in tortoiseshell, which I bought on the spot and gave to Aunt Peggy with great pride. She was delighted with the purchase, and although she has never actually used the trumpet, it is one of her most prized possessions.





BY EDMUND AKENHEAD

Market research in 1929 showed that a crossword puzzle might increase The Times's circulation. With some trepidation, a team of 'setters' was recruited under the editorship of Ronald Carton (succeeded by his wife Jane), and the Times Crossword No 1, compiled by Adrian Bell, appeared on February 1, 1930. Before long, myths grew up around the new craze: the Provost of Eton was said to time his boiled egg every morning by the minutes it took to solve the Times crossword

s the Times crossword editor one is denied the mental titillation which the crossword seeks to provide - and by way of compensation one has very few opportunities of amazing fellowtravellers in a railway compartment by solving in five minutes a puzzle which one has spent a couple of hours studying and editing a month previously. Now, however, after 18 years of editing, I am sharing again the agonies and the ecstasies of the daily solver, and this seems a good opportunity to give the said solver some idea of the agonies and the ecstasies of producing over 300 crosswords a year for his pleasure.

The compilers who first gave us "Chips come in after fish (9)" and "Art master (8)" no doubt delighted their editors, but what would delight such editors today would be equally good but quite different clues for 'carpenter' and "teachest". New discoveries are most satisfying; for example, anagrams which are also definitions: "entrap" = "trepan" and "must" = "stum" (both words mean unfermented grape-juice) or "terribly angered" as a clue for "enraged". But having once been used, they have to be relegated to the Index of prohibited clues for the next five years. It therefore falls to the lot of the editor who has himself recently produced "Riding into the sunset magnificently mounted in Avon county (6-5-4)", when presented with a very similar clue by one of his contributors, to find an entirely different clue for Weston-super-Mare.

The simpler the clue, in general, the better. "1,200 minus 200 (10)" I found very pleasing for Marylebone, while "Swiss canton where German is spoken? (4)" predictably elicited a letter from an English inhabitant of the canton, informing me that French, not German, is the language spoken in Vaud. I replied that the question mark at the end of the clue was a warning of a bit of trickery, and "where German" means "wo",

which sounds ("is spoken") the same as Vaud. "Bird calls? (6,6)" and "Peel's creation, initially (6,9)" may be on the easy side for "Flying visits" and "Police Constable" but are none the less pleasing.

Not all clues need be as crafty as "They hang from trees in the book of Jeremiah (6)" for "amenta" (catkins, to be found in the word Lamentations) and "Damage by fire headquarters of Scottish Orthodox Churches (6)" for "scorch" (SCOR-CH). It was on the special occasion of a Crossword Championship National Final that I perpetrated "Dial 999 if upset – you might get him (5)"; the answer "Beast" demands familiarity with verse 18 of Revelation, Chapter 13.

Christmas 1970 saw the appearance of the first Times Jumbo Crossword, a puzzle 27 squares by 27, designed to keep addicts quiet over the holidays. This proved to be very popular and still remains my responsibility. The first agony occurs in the search for 27-letter phrases which have not been used in the preceding 50-odd puzzles, and the second when the puzzle is half-constructed, and the search for words that will fit becomes increasingly difficult. The first ecstasy occurs when the construction is completed, demanding an immediate trip to the local for a celebratory pint, and the second when the 78 or 80 clues have been completed.

There had already been another innovation in 1970, the annual Crossword Championship. After a sabbatical year in 1982, the Championship was revived and the bicentenary year of *The Times* will be the third year of its sponsorship by Collins Dictionaries.

While the tackling of four *Times* crosswords may be beyond the endurance powers of some, the championship has proved very popular with many crossword enthusiasts and has over the years been of great value to me, giving much more

portunity for exchange of views an is normally provided by corresondence. The dialogue has almost ways been good-natured, but I still vidly remember the gentleman ho disagreed so violently with my fusal to allow his "buckboard" as a did alternative answer to a clue for backboard" that he tore off his halist's badge, flung it down on my ble and stormed out swearing to ansfer his allegiance from The times to a rival newspaper.

There was a happier outcome to e claim of a regional finalist at ork for "Erik" as an alternative to Eric" as the solution to the clue Red rover" (Eric the Red, Norse avigator, discoverer of Greennd). I was about to disallow it, note the Erik spelling appeared in one of my reference books, but rrunately the event was taking ace in the Viking Hotel and somene pointed out that drinks there ere enjoyed at Erik's bar. The

aim for Erik was allowed.

Mistakes in the crossword are the occurrences; eagle-eyed solvers to us a service by keeping us on our less. My own mis-spelling of "venous" as "venemous" - clue. "Like the toad, ugly and..." (AYLI) (8)—bused a furore and almost pertaded me to tender my resignation, at I was deeply touched by a couple freaders who considered that the error" needed no apology since wenemous" is the spelling used in the First Folio.

Another zealous reader reported the police that a *Times* crossword of October 20, 1966 contained the ords "gaol" and "artillery" two ays before the spy George Blake icaped from Wormwood Scrubs to a road flanking the prison nown as Artillery Road, but I was able to convince the police that both he compiler and I were innocent.

The only time I made a puzzle ontaining a secret message was on larch 2, 1981, when the first letters the Across words formed the mesgee "Long Live The Times", a entiment to be repeated now.





BY COLIN WATSON

The Times carried occasional tributes to the victims of the French Revolution in its early issues but it was not until the middle of the 19th century that obituaries appeared regularly. They came to be regarded as an important source of reference. In 1880 The Times published the first of many compilations of obituaries, including that of Charles Dickens in 1870 giving his dying words: 'Be natural, my children, for the writer that is natural has fulfilled all the rules of art'

t's an important part of the paper. Have a week with Mr Hickey [the leader writer who was acting as locum tenens] and by then you should have picked up the job." Thus Sir William Haley, editor of *The Times*, offered me the post of obituary editor, then a one-man department.

He believed that any real journalist could take on anything. I wasn't so sure. I was night news editor (home) and knew no more than the next man about obituaries. On the other hand, we were expecting another child, Sir William was said not to relish refusals and I smelt perhaps another £100 a year. So I said yes and was promptly furnished with a long memo (I have it still) setting out aims and objects and what he wanted done immediately.

This amounted, in addition to preparing each night's deaths, to a survey of perhaps 100 or more obituaries to see what was up to snuff and what wasn't. How fared HM? Was the PM up to date and had we pieces on the leading writers, actors, statesmen, scientists, musicians, soldiers, sailors and airmen past and present? We hadn't, of course, though we had some. You may read and read and read, particularly history; turn on the radio; listen for rumours of ill health (never laugh at so much as a chesty cold); and you may write endless letters but you never dare say you are on top.

How many obituaries are in stock? On one rough count we got up to 5,000, but as fast as people are "intombed in the urns and sepulchres of mortality" new obituaries, you hope, are in the post. "Let us now," says the majestic verse in Ecclesiasticus, "praise famous men." Well, yes, but how do you prepare in advance the praise and the blame? There have always been specialists on the *Times* staff to give a hand and some, like the lamented AP Ryan and Iolo Williams, could wear more than one hat, but many

obituaries are written by notable men and women ("Never neglect the role of women," said Sir William) in the outside world. The problem is (a) to find them, (b) to persuade them to write, and (c) to get them actually to deliver.

Just as every man is said to have a book in him, so most people have one obit in them, except actors and musicians, who can't or won't write. But civil servants can and will, and so will doctors, scientists and the men of law, Heaven be praised. Even then you may write a score of letters before you succeed. Take Nancy Mitford; all those literary and aristocratic friends and never an acceptance ("not while dear Nancy is alive,"they said). Finally, I followed one of the editor's admirable dicta: "If you want a good job done, always try a professional writer." I did. He was a distinguished Sunday Times man of letters and he said: "I shall hate doing it but you can't be left unguarded." He had known Nancy Mitford for many years and it cost him something to write it but he did.

Over the years in the quest for new writers one meets some fascinating people: General Colin Gubbins, he of the secret war, Bernard Fergusson, Chindit leader, writer and a true wit; and three who are especially memorable. One had been a bridesmaid to Clementine Churchill, a grande dame, elegantly if plainly dressed in toque and Granny-strap shoes. She turned in some shrewd and illuminating notes that I doubt if I could have obtained from any other quarter.

The second was a distinguished civil servant, all of 80 years old and neat as a new pin. Yes, he would write and did, but when we met I almost forgot to ask him all I wanted to know, for here, before my very eyes, was the man who had been private secretary to Seely, Asquith, Kitchener, Lloyd George, Lord Derby and Winston Churchill. To this man Kitchener allegedly said:

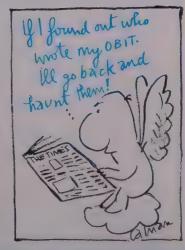
"What a War Office! Not a scrap of Army and not a pen that will write."

Lastly, a diplomat who had been in Russia when Rasputin was murdered in 1916. He, to whom many thanks, wrote the obit of Prince Yusupov, the principal assassin.

You have your modest successes and certainly your disasters. We no, I - removed from this life an eminent Far Eastern merchant and film tycoon. No excuses, but how was I to know that there were three brothers, all magnates and all in some way involved in films and scarcely a Yin or a Yang to distinguish them? This error took a lot of clearing up, for it was reported that his alleged death caused shares to fall in important places. On the other hand, we did have a scoop or two; one was the death of TS Eliot. An old and valued contributor rang late. He had, as the Irish say, drink taken and played a cat-and-mouse game with me ("A famous man is dead but I shan't tell you who"). It was late at night and I groaned, but patience paid off. After 20 minutes I made a lucky guess, the drink let him down and we were home but not dry. Happily, my friend Arthur Crook, editor of the TLS, knew Eliot's publisher and we were off.

Even after death there are problems: the aggrieved widow who feels her husband has not received his due; the angry man who says that he alone is the true heir to a peerage and, most difficult of all, the woman who gets into the front office and says: "The reference books are wrong. He never married that woman; I am his true wife."

"My days among the dead are passed," wrote Southey. Yes, but you must think of them as living, active, involved in matters memorable or notorious. All human life—well some of it anyway—is there, to be tracked down and written about and, if it is a difficult night, by you yourself and possibly at 11.30 pm. To work for 25 years in the *Times* obituary department was a liberal education.





It took ten years to put this capsule on the moon.



It took twelve years to put this capsule on the market.

A spurious comparison, you think?

Not if you know anything about the pitfalls of pharmaceuticals research.

Like space exploration, it requires an enormous act of faith and will to succeed.

Any new compound can cost upwards of £50 million to research and develop.

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True, the rewards of success can be considerable.

But it can be twelve years or more before you stand to reap them.

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It may lack the charisma of a moonshot. But for thousands of people throughout the world it's helped to improve their quality of life.

A century of service to medicine.

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Currently our research programme involves over 2,500 people around the world.

If we stopped tomorrow, we'd certainly be better off as a company.

But it would be a bleak outlook for man-

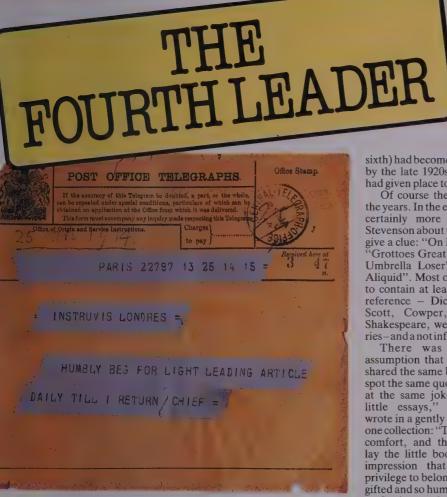
kind. We're spending £1 million a day

on a better tomorrow.

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We spend £1 million a day on research to produce better chemicals, pharmaccuticals, fibres, plastics, dyes, agrochemicals, veterinary products, reprographics and many other vital products. For the complete picture, please send for a copy of "Finding New Ways" to Hoechst UK Ltd., Publicity Dept., Salisbury Road, Hounslow, Middx TW46JH.



Till there ever be such a book as Fourth Leaders from The Times 2050?" inquired the troduction to the second postwar ollected volume in 1950, adding autiously: "Some would argue that his is impossible." Some in 1985 ould wonder what on earth the riter of this introduction was talkg about, for the fourth leader is one f those once apparently immutable atures of The Times, like the Agony olumn, which has long vanished. ecasionally, it is true, even in these ays, there may be found a final ader treating a subject with a little dicious levity, but it has a rather bandoned look about it – a last ickoo which has forgotten to miate. In their prime, fourth leaders me daily, always in the same place, ke the crossword or Court Circular.

Their admirers, who were many, sed to claim that these were essays the great tradition of Addison, amb and Stevenson, but practioners who let that sort of comparion go to their heads were liable to ray into paths of pomposity or himsicality. A truer assessment ould be that any newspaper needs omething short and amusing by way tescape from the solid stuff. In each years, *Times* readers have

known where to look for the admirable Miles Kington or Frank Johnson, not to mention the volunteer letter writers in the south-east corner of the leader page. Before 1966 they turned to the last of the leaders.

The only times when they looked in vain were when good taste seemed to rule out levity. Thus the lead story for February 7, 1952 was "Death of the King", with all leaders on some aspect of the same news, and it was not until nearly two weeks later, after all the captains and kings who came for George VI's funeral had departed, that a light leader ("Gongs") surfaced again. For the same reason there was no light leader during those days in January 1965 when Churchill lay dying.

We have Northcliffe to thank for this feature, as for so much else. One of the illustrations in the fourth volume of *The History of The Times* is of a telegram sent by him from Paris to Printing House Square on January 25, 1914: HUMBLY BEG FOR LIGHT LEADING ARTICLE DAILY TILL I RETURN - CHIEF. Northcliffe got what he asked for. With some hiccups, the "third leader" as it was called (even when it came fourth), or the "fourth leader" as it was later called (even when it came fifth or

BY E.C. HODGKIN

In a telegram from Paris (left) in January 1914 Lord Northcliffe asked for a 'light leading article daily'. This was the beginning of a campaign to boost the static prewar circulation of The Times, soon to go down in price to 1d. The addition of a leader (which became known as the Fourth Leader) in the form of a humorous essay continued to bring readers relief from more weighty issues of the day until William Rees-Mogg abolished the institution in 1967

sixth) had become firmly established by the late 1920s, after Northcliffe had given place to Astor.

Of course the style varied over the years. In the early days there was certainly more than a whiff of Stevenson about them. Leader titles give a clue: "On Being Interested", "Grottoes Great and Small", "The Umbrella Loser's Club", "Amari Aliquid". Most of them were likely to contain at least one apt literary reference — Dickens, Thackeray, Scott, Cowper, and of course Shakespeare, were favourite quarries—and a not infrequent Latin one.

There was the reassuring assumption that writer and reader shared the same background, could spot the same quotations, and smile at the same jokes. "These happy little essays," Harold Nicolson wrote in a gently mocking review of one collection: "They entertain, they comfort, and they assuage... We lay the little book down with the impression that it is indeed a privilege to belong to so tolerant, so gifted and so humane a race."

Students of manners have as much to learn from these leaders as from Leech and Du Maurier drawings in 19th-century *Punch*. Take some of the Second World War ones, for example. From a 1941 leader called "Shopping Then and Now": "Now no greengrocer will volunteer by telephone that he has some nice asparagus this morning; the mistress of the house will have to go and see what he has got." Or, better still, from 1939: "There was much to be said for the wagonette."

'Concerning the authorship of the leaders all that need be said is that they are the work of several different hands, all being, or, to be accurate, all belonging to, members of the editorial staff of The Times." That is from the introduction to the first postwar collected volume, culled from the paper of 1949, and I would bet that that particular hand belonged to Peter Fleming, often considered the most accomplished and recognizable writer of fourth leaders. His urbane and jocular relish for the grotesque shows up in a typical leader on first names called "The Imprudence of Being Prudence", the peg being Turkish parents of quadruplets who had called "this posse of little strangers" Equality, Brotherhood, Justice and

Freedom. "To call a boy Unesco," commented the leader, "or a girl Schizophrenia, will confer on them in infancy a very fetching air of modishness; but time may erode the gilt from their gingerbread."

If the editor was lucky he might build up quite a store of suitable material, but there were days when the larder was bare. "Well, that looks after everything except the funny," the editor would say at the leader conference, looking around at his assistant editors like Horatius calling for volunteers to hold the bridge against Lars Porsena's hordes. Silence. Then some reckless Spurius Lartius or Herminius would pipe up: "There's a Reuter's message about a centenarian woman in Arkansas who's learning to play the trombone. I might be able to do something with that." "Right. Good. Fourteen and a half thirtyseconds." Dismiss.

The figure referred to the notional division of the columns into 32 units in those days, and since each unit of leader contained on an average 31 words, this condemned the volunteer to write 450 words – no more, no less.

"The funny" is what, rightly or wrongly, the fourth leader was known as in the office. And why not? There was a funny called "On Trying to be Funny" which asserted: "It is difficult to see where the harm lies in trying to be funny, as long as our experiments are conducted in a humane and genteel manner." How true! Risi, so to speak, nescio quem modo e corona.





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In that time, as well as being so highly acclaimed by Car Magazine, Uno has earned the title "Car of the Year 1984".*

It has been called "The ultimate supermini" (Autocar).

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And their final verdict?

"Compared with rival hatchbacks offering the same levels of performance it has stood up well, and ... offers

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And the revolutionary Panda 4 x 4, bringing 4-wheel drive agility to a range of hatchbacks that are already the most versatile in their class.

These models are the result of a continuous process of development.

A process designed to ensure that when we claim to be setting new standards, it's no idle boast.

Uno. CAR OF THE YEAR 1984.



SETTING NEW STANDARDS



BY DAVID WOOD

n the first issue of The Daily Universal Register, John Walter announced his ntention to report Parliament:
Debates should be reported for the musement or information of those who may be particularly fond of them.' By the late 18th century the rules egarding the publication of parliamentary speeches as a breach of privilege had been relaxed and by 1834 ondon newspapers were given their wan press gallery. By 1881, The Times and secured its own special writing boom, a unique arrangement which ontinues to this day

hen I joined the Times parliamentary staff soon after the war, what ooked like disaster almost imnediately struck. It had nothing to o with Pitman's shorthand opelessly rusted by years of non-se. On the Terrace corridor I had ushed a lift button for the upper ommittee corridor, where The Times Room (not office) had moved uring the postwar rebuilding of the urnt-out Chamber. Down came the ft, squeezing the air beneath it with he sound of a cycle pump. Slowly he door opened. There stood the quat, formidable figure of the Supemo himself, the Commander of he Commanders-in-Chief, surrised to find that he had not reached he library floor for the habitual ame of bezique with his cronies or nother stint on the war memoirs.

Out of habit I nearly stood to ttention and saluted. Winston Churchill summoned from great ffairs at the press of a button – my food, it was awesome. I waited for a clast of Churchillian thunder. Intead he wore the fat, puckish face that used often to make him look like the plump new baby next door. Come in, my boy," he said. Where can I drive you?" Brushing side deferential protests that my bourney to the neo-Gothic stars was ot urgent, he drove me up.

If you were one of the Gallery eporters with nothing to your name xcept a demob suit, Churchill was a owering figure, even though he had set the 1945 general election and pent little time in the House. As I ow know, he could be petty, petuant, wounding for the pleasure of rawing blood, just as he could be

chivalrous or tender enough to weep in public. He was a lad unparalleled, to pinch and adapt Shakespeare's phrase. By merely serving for a few years in the Press Gallery as a Churchill-watcher, I picked up that part of my education I value most; not least that, even with the biggest men and women, past and present, "there's now't so queer as folk".

Unintentionally, my vigilance in the *Times* "box" eventually rewarded Churchill for his courtesies in the lift. During an economic debate, a Conservative frontbencher put a question to Sir Stafford Cripps, the Chancellor. The Times's parliamentary team, unlike Hansard at the time, could use parenthetical descriptions, and I reported in brackets that Cripps had affirmatively nodded without rising from his seat. It proved to be a crucial admission, and there was nothing in the Hansard report to substantiate it. Next day Churchill himself rose portentously as Opposition leader to quote the Times parenthesis and to ask Cripps to confirm it. He did. The affirmative nod became recordable words.

Churchill was involved less attractively in another Times parliamentary report. In the Chamber he had outrageously insulted Manny Shinwell, the Minister of Defence, and the Italians in one breath. Churchill or his aide asked the Hansard editor to delete the words. As it happened, there was always a gentleman's agreement between the Hansard editor and the chief of the Times parliamentary staff. Hansard would check that The Times meant to print the words, and would then usually tell politicians that the deletion could not be made.

Of course, the Times parliamentary report, always written, headed and controlled at Westminster, erred sometimes. Once we somehow described Ernest Bevin, the great Foreign Secretary, as "Conservative, Wandsworth". The parliamentary chief next morning behaved as though he and the paper faced the biggest libel case in history. He rang up Bevin at the Foreign Office to grovel with apologies and promise a correction. Then he broke into a relieved smile. "Ernie says," he explained, "that a lot of people would agree with the description. He doesn't want a correction.

In my days, Bevin stood next to

Churchill as a giant; and he, too, was a giant with faults of temperament and character. A ruthless merger of unions during most of his life, he came late to politics in 1940, and never accustomed himself to the House or even to criticism of a democratic sort. He had little formal education, no gift either of language or tongues, and a habit of using double or even treble negatives when speaking off the cuff, quite apart from anglicizing the pronunciation of any foreign word. Often in The Times Room we had to cobble up British foreign policy by deciding which negatives to delete.

Yet for sheer grit and personal power he matched Churchill. There need be no doubt that in creating postwar Europe as Foreign Secretary he killed himself by overwork. I remember as a novice trying to pass his broad shoulders in a Commons corridor, and there was no room to do it. A year or two later, when he had been ordered to lose weight, I easily overtook both him and his aide walking abreast.

In referring to Bevin I do not mean to underestimate Attlee, the Prime Minister. According to Churchill's jest, an empty taxi pulled up in New Palace Yard and Attlee got out. But he still had more party managerial skill and strength than any Labour leader we have seen since. He was a man of few words. His staff at No. 10 used to run a book on who could produce a memorandum that would provoke him into more than a monosyllable. For weeks they drew out of him no more than "Yes" "No", "Wait", "See", and so on. It is said that eventually Douglas Jay, his PPS, made a killing.

There were a number of pleasures in Gallery reporting long ago. First, there was the joy of a human voice of great beauty: I never heard one that gave me more delight than that of Hartley Shawcross, then the Attorney-General (when he was not in Nuremberg). Or the voice of the Liverpudlian Lord Samuel, a Liberal, who constructed sentences like William Ewart Gladstone. You feared they would never work out but (like Enoch Powell's today) they always did. Stafford Cripps, KC, I remember as the most perfectly logical developer of a brief. Nobody in the House today can begin to vie with the best of 40 years ago, no doubt because the parliamentary style of speech has profoundly changed, with, instead of a debate, a series of scripted statements.

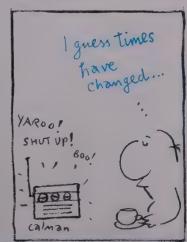
Secondly, the House of Commons had some wit and humour - not enough, perhaps, yet some. Leslie Hale, the Labour backbencher, not only spoke at an utterly unreportable rate of 300 words a minute, but he scarcely ever said a dull thing. AP Herbert, who held a university seat, spoke with so much witty learning that you could not report him for laughing. And Oliver Stanley, from the Conservative front bench, never made a wind-up speech that lacked an aristocratic kind of urbane, pin-pricking humour. Harold Wilson was then easily the dreariest frontbencher. He improved.

Where have the wits and humorists gone? Presumably into television chat shows, or upstairs into the new pompous departmental committees that are emptying the Chamber to produce reports that are no sooner printed than forgotten.

But, then, where is much else? Where are the characters of the Press Gallery itself, such as Bill Barclay (Express), Clephan Palmer (News Chronicle), Harry Boardman (Guardian), Jack Broadbent (Daily Mail), or Stanley Robinson (The Times), who as secretary protected the interests of the Press Gallery (and The Times Room, which is not part of the Gallery) during the years of postwar rebuilding?

My generation of gallerymen, I fear, failed to produce characters of their quality: men who did not kill the thing they loved with mockery and did not treat the Chamber as the latest theatrical farce or comedy. Looking back to the way it was only 40 years ago, I sometimes think that there is now a conspiracy between politicians and the media to sacrifice parliamentary democracy for an epigram or five minutes on radio.

As Churchill boyishly drove me up in a lift from the Terrace corridor, that possibility never crossed his mind or mine.





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United Kingdom - United States of America - Belgium



BY GEOFFREY WOOLLEY

The letters column of The Times is an institution as old as the paper. In the early days correspondence appeared as 'Letters to the Conductor' and later as 'Letters to the Printer'. Those rejected as being uninteresting were treated as advertisements, their authors paying for the privilege of seeing their names in print. The longest letter ever to appear was seven and a half columns by Sir Godfrey Lushington on the Dreyfus

case in 1898; the shortest, three words which appeared in May 1958: "Let's govern Cyprus."

hen The Times was celebrating its 150th anniversary, the correspondent whose task it was to record the role of Letters to the Editor wrote of the British privilege that had become a universal practice, with foreign potentates as anxious to explain policies as the country parson watching the skies to describe the glories of the Northern Lights. Now, 50 years on, though potentates may have been replaced by less colourful figures and though restraints on freedom and on the freedom of speech are grimly apparent elsewhere, letters still pour in to prove that freedom to argue or amuse, within the bounds of decency or libel, still continues in the columns of The Times.

But these past five decades have seen many changes in the provenance of the letters printed—greater changes perhaps than in any previous 50-year span since 1785. In this period came the social upheaval accelerated by the 1939-45 war, by the dissolution of an Empire and the forging of new Commonwealth and European links, by massive educational reform, and by the impact of television (with "the television habit" viewed so apprehensively by TS Eliot in a letter as early as 1950).

These changes have inevitably broadened the spectrum of those who write to the editor and, in recent years, the number of letters received has increased to between 200 and 300 a day. This in turn has meant shorter letters in the paper, continuing a trend Douglas Woodruff had noted in 1936 when choosing the

first anthology of letters, *Dear Sir* – a trend confirmed if one studies the two later collections made by Kenneth Gregory, *The First Cuckoo* and *The Second Cuckoo*.

Where now would – or could – space be found for WH Hudson to write, as he did in 1893, of "Feathered Women" and the threat to bright-plumaged birds in a letter of 1,600 words? Or for Richard Jefferies to draw attention, as in 1872, to the condition of farm labourers in letters of 3,000 and 2,000 words, with rejoinders from a Wiltshire labourer's son and from Lord Shaftesbury of 1,400 and 1,600 words? Even more impressive is the editorial decision in 1898 to devote some 13,000 words to the Dreyfus affair.

No such succession could be tolerated now, when to print even two or three letters from the same person is criticized. Exactly 30 years ago in Punch, RA Knox decided to study the frequency with which public men had letters printed. He left out of his account the sort of letters which appeared when some major outrage, such as a Matisse leaving the country, "has stirred the Athenaeum to its depths (you picture the members waking one another up and saying 'sign, please')". Among those appearing most often were the redoubtable Edward Iwi, Dermot Morrah, AP Herbert, and Sir Robert Boothby, as he then was. But it was Lord Vansittart who came up strongly at the end of the year to beat them all.

Another perennial criticism has always been that too much emphasis is put upon rank and position in the choosing of letters for publication. Norman Grenyer, for many years deputy letters editor, was continually rebutting this, in written replies or on the phone, by consulting a cutting he kept in his desk. This was a survey made by Mr James Henderson in 1968 of "the kind of people who write to The Times". From a total of 4,268 letters printed, dons and schoolmasters wrote 436, MPs 304, clergymen 182, peers and peeresses 156, bishops 39, captains of industry 83, and the remaining 3,070 were written "by people who had no titles or were unidentifiable". Henderson should have made it clear that his survey referred to letters printed, since in 1968 the number written to The Times was in fact 63.963.

The aim of those who have been responsible to the editor for the correspondence columns has always been to provide as varied a cross-section as possible, mixing the serious and the light-hearted. But sometimes it is obvious that one particular subject is going to open the floodgates and need all the space available. This happened with the Suez crisis, when Mr Enoch Powell made his early speeches on race relations, and with the events in

Brief and to the point: this classic note from the pen of Lt Col. AD Wintle has been treasured by generations of letters editors but has never previously been published

both Czechoslovakia and Hungary.
And, of course, the abdication

crisis - though in this case not one letter was printed. Instead, on December 10, in a long first leader he called "Letters to the Editor", the editor wrote: "By every post of the day letters have poured into this office, their very numbers making publication (if that had been decent) or even acknowledgement impossible." This leader traced the trend of this massive flow from the emotional to the critical. On that same day Edward VIII abdicated, and in the next week or so only a few short letters touching on this grave occasion were printed.

Ironically, it was King George V who, approached by a friend hoping that a word from His Majesty in the right quarter would solve a difficulty, said: "My dear fellow, I can't help you. You'd better write to *The Times*."

One wonders what the 50 years from now until 2035 will bring to the staff sifting through yet another three million letters. What will open the floodgates next, and what eccentricities are in store for the bottom right-hand corner, to give the page what Robert Morley has described as its "special sense of idiocy". Will the editor allow, after a decent interval of decades, renewed discussion on the oar-system of triremes or on the eating of porridge? Will there be live wasps to end arguments on the stinging season? Will there be an ambassador pleading for prompt publication of his letter because his head of state will not sanction his home leave until it is printed?

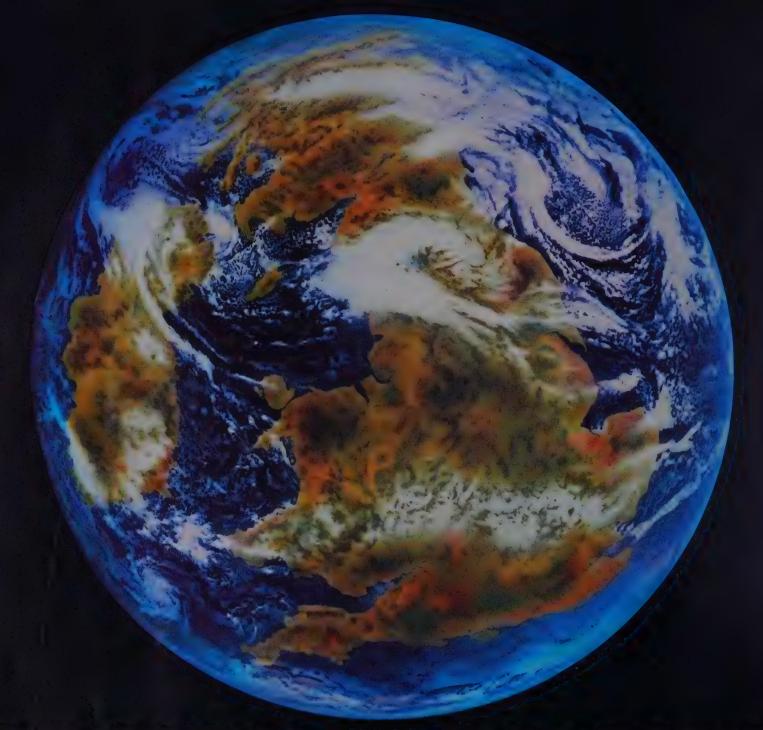
And will there be the same sense of excitement in recognizing the importance of certain letters that come in out of the blue, perhaps on a quiet Sunday afternoon, to startle Government and Opposition – a letter, say, of the calibre of one General

Hackett wrote on the true purpose of Nato while he was a serving officer, even though he might be wearing his Nato hat. And letters from government ministers themselves, George Brown in particular, scattering the old conventions of aloofness to increase yet further the scope and worth of debate by letter.

Of course there will be such moments and such men. The only moments one hopes will not return are those on the brink of silence – however brief—with letters available but no paper to put them in. For even after the suspension of publication in 1978, letters still came in from all over the world, settling down to 20 or 30 a day, month after month.

There will be wars and rumours of war; there will be industrial strife and political squalls. But somewhere ahead there will be space for those Northern Lights, for Christian names of 2034, and perhaps, to keep the myth alive, one cuckoo to sing loudly across another 50 years.





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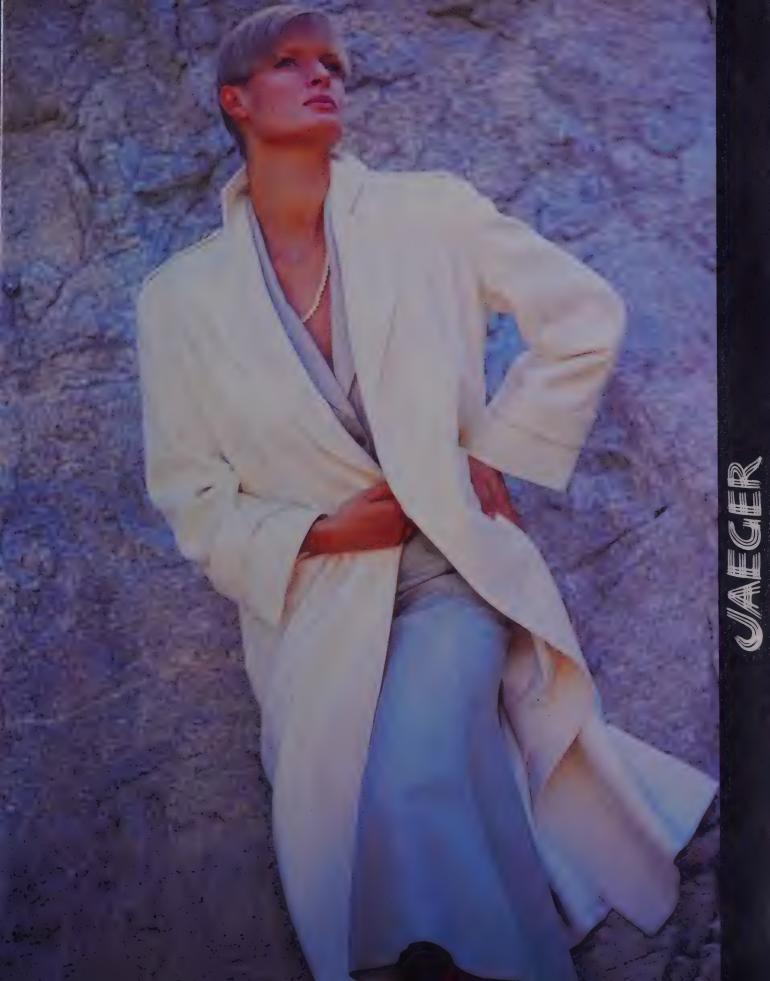
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from Thomas Carlyle's Latter Day pamphlets, 1850



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EZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

ALTY-OFFICE, Nov. S. which the following are Copies, the Admiralty this day, at one on Vice-Admiral Collingwood, rief of his Majesty's ships and

lus, off Cape Trafalgur, Oct. 22, 1805. amented death of Vice-Admiral ison, who, in the late conflict Il in the bour of victory, leaves informing my Lords Commissiralty, that on the 19th instant, ted to the Commander in Chief, ching the motions of the enemy Combined Fleet had put to sea; light winds westerly, his Lordneir destination was the Medimediately made all sail for the , with the British Squadrou, coneven ships, three of them sixtyordship was informed, by Caphose vigilance in watching, and e enemy's movements, has been), that they had not yet passed

21st înstant, at day-light, who e E. by S. about seven lea iscovered six or seven wind about West, and Chief immediately, bear up in two colu er of sailing; a mode of iously directed, to elay in forming a lm er. The enemy's line hips (of which eigh Spanish), commande e: the Spaniards, a, wore, with the ormed their d correctne l, so th convexing to leeed a g wn to their centre, I ear abaft the beam; bery alternate ship was about

Findward of her second a-head

ing a kind of double line, and

on their beam, to leave a very

reen them; and this without

Congratulations to the one new spate that's are.

, the loss of those excellent aff, of the Mars, and Cooke, of have yet heard of none others. ers that have fallen will be found in the returns come to me; but it having blown a gale of wind ever since the action, I have not yet had it in my power to collect any reports from the ships.

The Royal Sovereign having lost her masts, except the tottering foremast, I called the Euryalus to me, while the action continued, which ship lying within hail, made my signals—a service Captain Blackwood performed with great attention: after the action, I shifted my flag to her, that I might more easily communicate any orders to, and collect the ships, and towed the Royal Sovereign out to

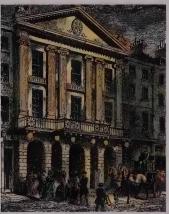
information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the proceedings of his Majesty's squadron on the day of the action, and that preceding it, since which I have bad a continued series of misfortunes; but they are of a kind that human prudence could not possibly provide against, or my skill prevent.

On the 22d, in the morning, a strong seutherly wind blew, with squally weather, which, however, did not prevent the activity of the Officers and Seamen of such ships as were manageable, from getting hold of many of the prizes (thirteen or fourteen), and towing them off to the Westward, where I ordered them to rendezvous round the Royal Sovereign, in tow by the Neptune: but on the 23d the gale increased, and the sea ran so high that

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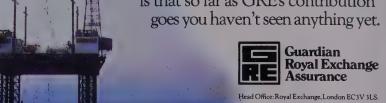
fire and third party liability, had been covered by

different policies.

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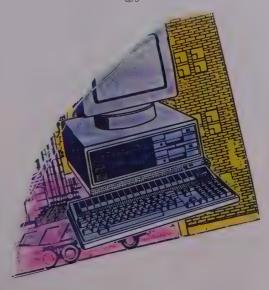
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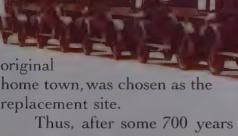
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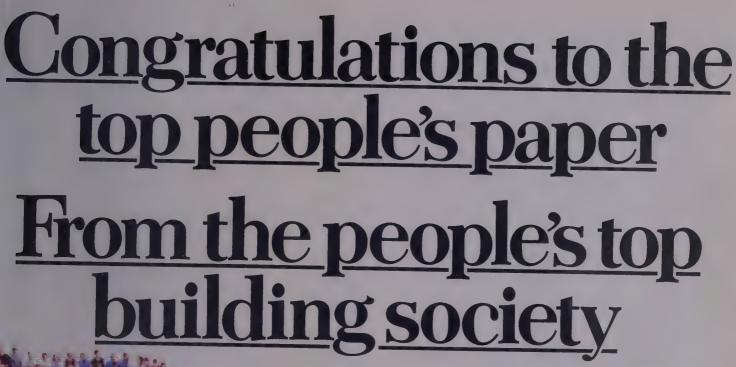
In 1885 The Times was already one hundred years old when Pearl Assurance celebrated the first 21 years of its existence with assets of £110,000.

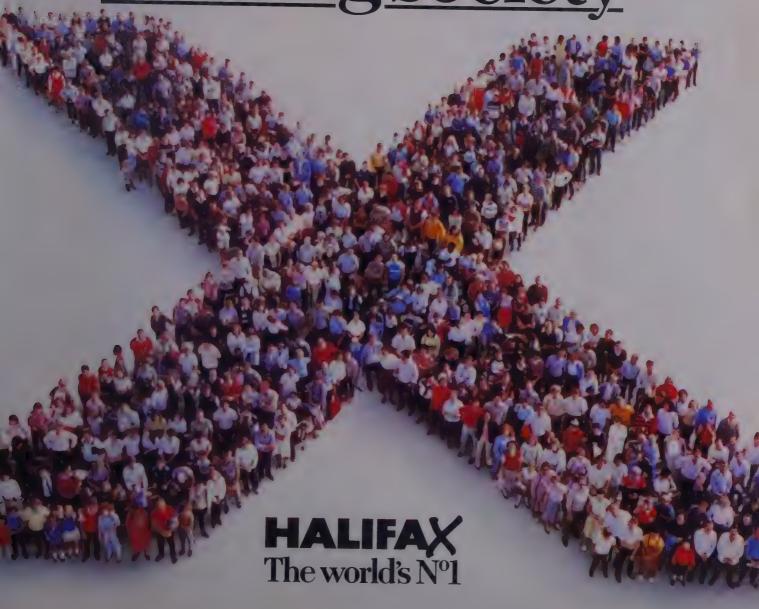
Now, one hundred years on the Pearl group of companies has also become a household name providing a comprehensive insurance service in more than 2 million homes in the United Kingdom. Total assets have grown to £3,500 million at market value.

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Reaching for the sky from the first British Aerospace

balloon ascent to the prospect of a space

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Where are we heading to now?

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For all this sophistication, though, you can rest assured we've done nothing to jeopardise our reputation for reliability.

We still, for example, equip each model with our

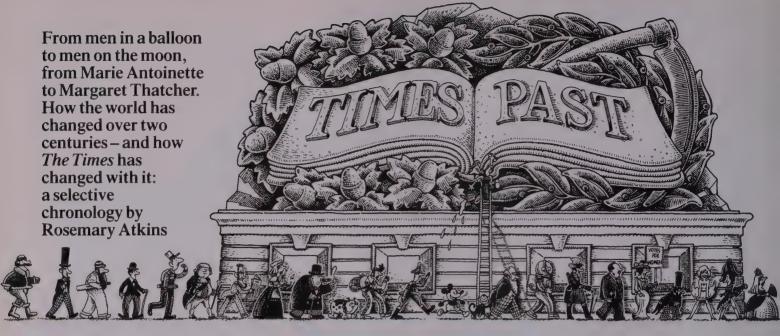
unique free three year unlimited mileage warranty.

Proving that we still confidently expect our cars to prove more reliable than their competitors.

Even those made in Germany.

The new Galant. Please send me full details together with the address of	
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Leading the way in cartechnology.



- Pitt's India Act. First balloon flight in England. Brighton Pavilion built. First mail coaches used in England.
- Pitt's parliamentary reforms defeated. Warren Hastings resigns as Governor General of India. Blanchard and Jeffries cross Channel in balloon. Power loom patented.
- 1786 Threshing machine invented
- Turkey declares war on Russia. Riots in Paris. Mont Blanc climbed. MCC founded. The World, new daily paper. 1787 American constitution signed, Federal government formed
- Austria declares war on Turkey. George III mentally ill. Warren Hastings tried for maladministration of India. 1788
- George Washington President of United States. Bounty mutineers settle on Pitcairn Island. First steam-driven cotton factory, in Manchester. French Revolution. Mob forces Louis XVI and family to return to Paris.
- Washington DC founded, Benjamin Franklin dies,
- The Observer founded. Wilberforce anti-slave trade petition passed. Massacre at Champ de Mars, Paris.
- Libel Act passed. Pitt prepares for war. France: Commune set up; Republic proclaimed; first guillotine.
- Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette executed. France declares war on 1793 Britain and Holland. Grey's reform motion defeated.
- 1794 Paris Commune abolished. Howe defeats French fleet.
- 1795 Anti-war demonstrations in England. Hastings acquitted
- 1796 Peace talks with French fail. Smallpox vaccine introduced.
- 1797 Napoleon prepares to invade England. Financial crisis in Britain, First £1 note
- 1798 Irish rebellion. Nelson defeats French in Battle of Nile.
- 1799 Austria declares war on France. Pitt brings in 10% income tax.
- Act of Union abolishes Irish Parliament, Alessandro Volta discovers electricity. Population of London over one million.
- Addington Prime Minister. Union Jack official British flag 1801

INSIDE THE TIMES

April John Walter, 45, buys patent in logographic printing and takes over former King's Printing House, Blackfriars.

Jan 1 The Daily Universal Register. Four pages, printed by hand. Price $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, inc $1\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp duty. Tax on each ad, 2s 6d. April 1 Price 3d. Circulation about 1,000.

Walter attempts to become King's printer

Walter given printing contract by H M Customs. Post Office begins monitoring foreign newspapers: sells censored news

Jan 1 Issue 940: Walter changes cumbersome title from The Daily Universal Register to The Times.

Jan Walter buys bookshop at 169 Piccadilly. Times accepts £300 a year for supporting Pitt's Government. Aug 2 Stamp duty 2d; price of Times 4d. Nov 23 Walter sentenced to prison for libel of Royal Dukes.

William Finey takes over as 'Conductor' in Walter's absence.

Mar Walter released from prison. June 1 Receives £250 from Prince of Wales as 'slight compensation'.

Walter sets up own foreign news service, bypassing Post Office.

Feb 1 French newspapers contraband; Walter keeps light cutter running across Channel to get news.

April 21 Times 41/2d. Circulation about 2,000.

Walter retires. Eldest son, William Walter, becomes manager.

Newspapers delivered to provinces post-free.

Journalist William Combe takes leading role in management. July 5 Stamp duty 3½d. July 6 Times 6d.

Death of Walter's wife, Frances

Combe arrested for debt but continues to work.

Wooden presses replaced by Stanhope presses, printing 250

Walter gives son William 1/16th share in company profits.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Jan 1 First issue. Feb 16 Notice that paper will carry book reviews. June 29 Title piece printed in red to indicate public holiday

Jan 4 Wood-block illustrations used in ads

June 29 Red holiday title pieces abandoned to avoid printing

Jan 2 First law report. Mar 18 Title changed from Roman type to shadowed gothic, which remained until 1932.

Feb 21 First of two articles criticizing Prince of Wales and Duke of York's attitude to King's illness. Mar 2 Walter starts Evening Mail, three times a week. July 20 Storming of Bastille reported. Oct 12 Capture of French royal family reported.

Jan 27 Leader on threat to press freedom

Aug 2 Article condemns pro-Revolution riots in Birmingham. **Sept 6** Report on capture of Bangalore.

Feb 10 Words 'printed logographically' taken off title.

Jan 26 First mourning border used for Louis XVI's execution. Feb 13 Front-page parliamentary report. Aug 3 Duke of Brunswick's anti-revolutionary declaration: exclusive.

Mar 31 Theatre ads moved off front page to inside paper.

Jan 27 Whole paper on war with France: no ads.

Nov 9 George Washington's resignation address.

Feb 28 Mansion House meeting to discuss plan for issuing

April 12 Leader supports general call to arms.

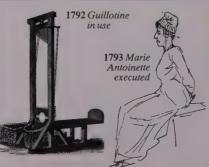
Nov 9 New 'modern' Caslon typeface introduced.

Aug 27 Comparison of English and French soldiers over 450

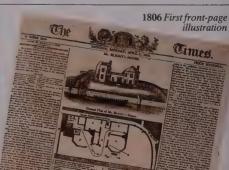
April 20 Nelson's victory at Copenhagen: map.











1788 Title changes to The Times

Peace of Amiens with France. West India dock built in 1802 London. Napoleon President of Italian Republic.

1803 Napoleon prepares to invade England, Bombshell invented,

1804 Second Pitt administration formed. Napoleon and Josephine crowned. Spain declares war on England.

Treaty with Russia, and later Austria, against France. Nelson dies defeating French and Spanish at Trafalgar. 1805

Pitt dies. Lord Grenville Prime Minister. Napoleon closes continental ports to British ships. Dartmoor prison built.

Lord Portland Prime Minister. Slave trade abolished in British 1807 Empire. Gas lighting in London streets. France invades Portugal. England at war with Prussia

France invades Spain. Sir Arthur Wellesley's force lands in Portugal; French evacuate

Alliance with Austria against France. Wellesley made Viscount Wellington. Perceval Prime Minister. Napoleon divorces Josephine.

George III insane again. Durham miners strike. Napoleon continues conquest of Europe; invades Portugal; marries 1810 Marie Louise of Austria.

Prince of Wales becomes Regent. John Nash lays out Regents Park. Luddite riots. Wellington defeats French in Portugal. 1811

Perceval assassinated, Lord Liverpool Prime Minister. US declares war on England. Wellington defeats French at Salamanca, enters Madrid. Napoleon retreats from Russia. 1812

1813 Americans capture Toronto. Napoleon defeated at Leipzig. Allied invasion of France. Fire extinguisher invented.

Paris falls, Napoleon abdicates, escapes to Elba. Peace with Americans signed at Ghent. Peninsula war ends. Dukedom 1814 for Wellington

Napoleon starts 100-Day War. London riots against Corn Laws. Napoleon defeated at Waterloo. Davy lamp invented

Income tax abolished. First cheap edition of Cobbett's Political 1816 Register, 'twopenny trash'. Mas's emigration to US, Canada.

Prince Regent's coach attacked. Habeas Corpus suspended. The Scotsman founded in Edinburgh. 1817

1818 First steamship, Savannah, crosses Atlantic in 26 days.

Treaty of Versailles. Peterloo massacre. Six Acts passed to 1819 restrict public meetings. Factory Act restricts employment of children. Burlington Arcade opens in Piccadilly.

George III dies; succeeded by George IV. Cato Street Conspiracy to murder British ministers. George IV's wife, 1820 Caroline, returns to claim throne. Queen Caroline tried.

1821 George IV crowned. Queen Caroline dies; riots at funeral. Napoleon dies. Manchester Guardian founded.

1822 Nine Power Treaty with America. Sunday Times founded.

1823 Daniel O'Connell forms Catholic Association of Ireland.

Combination Act repealed; leads to increase in trade union activity and strikes. RSPCA founded, London. Byron dies.

1825 Financial crisis. Horse-drawn buses in London

Lord John Russell's reform proposals defeated. First camera 1826 used in France.

Canning becomes Prime Minister. Goderich Prime Minister on death of Canning. France, Russia, England sign Treaty of London. Karl Baedeker publishes travel guides.

Wellington Prime Minister. Red Cross founded. Russia at war with Turkey. University of London opens.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Dec 31 William Walter hands Times management to his brother, John Walter II, 26, but retains printing business

J Walter II assumes editorial control.

Dec 6 End-of-print time given so readers can determine whether any delay is due to late printing or late distribution.

Drama critic, Barron Field, appointed. Unbiased theatre reviews begin. John Dyas Collier, law reporter 1804-1808, introduces J Walter II to journalist Henry Crabb Rebinson.

Oct 29 Special 'double number', 8 pages, price 1s. J Walter II loses Customs and Excise contract.

J Walter II sends Crabb Robinson to Holstein: first staff foreign correspondent. Leigh Hunt drama critic. Rev Peter Lovett Fraser acts as deputy conductor/editor

Crabb Robinson acts as editor, then leaves for Corunna.

J Walter II resumes editorial control as Crabb Robinson resigns. May 22 Price 61/2d.

Thomas Barnes becomes a theatre critic, later parliamentary reporter. May 10 Times Companionship formed after labour spute; 19 men gaoled.

Post Office unable to deliver mail as French blockade ports: J Walter II makes own arrangements for receiving foreign news. Samuel Taylor Coloridge turned down for job.

Edward Sterling, contributor, appointed staff writer. **Nov 16** J Walter I dies, leaving J Walter II sole management but less than a third share in company.

John 'Dr Slop' Stoddart takes over editing of Times.

Nov 29 First issue to be printed on the first ever steam press, made by Koenig and Bauer: capable of printing 1,100 sheets an hour. Circulation about 4,500.

Sept 1 Price 7d, stamp duty 4d. Barnes given control of leading articles. John Murray joins parliamentary staff.

Feb 6 Dispute over extra pay for handling new type. **Dec 31** Stoddart dismissed: starts rival newspaper.

Thomas Alsager appointed city correspondent. William Hazlitt drama critic. Barnes, 32, becomes editor; given small share in paper. John Tyas appointed staff reporter.

Supplements published to accommodate more ads.

June 19 Page size reduced to 15 in x 21 in. William Delane and Thomas Alsager act as managers. J Walter II moves to Bear Wood in Berkshire, assigning some shares to staff.

Trial of Queen Caroline pushes circulation up to 15,000. Charles Ross appointed parliamentary reporter (stays with paper until 1883)

Charles Greville, Clerk to Privy Council, supplies political inside information. Thomas Alsager appointed manager.

Regular supplements appear. Times ad rates undercut rivals'

William Combe dies after nearly 40-year association.

Times now has expensive world network of special couriers. Thomas Thornton joins staff: reviews books.

July 12 Size restrictions lifted; new format, 161/2in x 221/2in.

Barnes living with Mrs Dinah Mondet in Nelson Square.

James Murray foreign director, deputizing for Barnes. Koenig, with Augustus Applegath and Edward Cowper, devises 4-cylinder press. Walter sells some shares.

Feb 14 Applegath and Cowper's press installed; capable of 4,000 sheets an hour printed both sides. First Times fund started, for sufferers in Spain and France.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Jan 13/18 Trial and execution of naval mutineers in Portsmouth

Jan 15 Change in setting of leading article.

Jan 7 Clock device introduced, giving average time paper begins printing: 6.06 am.

Nov 3 (Sunday) Extraordinary issue gives news of the Austrian General Mack's surrender to Napoleon. **Nov 7** Battle of Trafalgar on front page. Dec 2 Extraordinary issue

Jan 10 First illustration: Nelson's funeral. April 7 First front page illustration. June 13 Full report of Viscount Melville's impeachment (first supplement; 12 pages in all, price 18d).

Feb 26 Crabb Robinson begins series of letters 'From the banks of the Elbe'. May 9 Article attacking Francis Freeling, Secretary to the Post Office, brings libel action

May 25 First 5-column paper. July 20 Despatch on French victory at Corunna. Aug 8 Extraordinary issue: Peninsula war.

Jan 24 Crabb Robinson's account of death of British commander Sir John Moore at Corunna. July 16 Map illustrates court martial of Lord Gambier.

Feb 11 J Walter II's personal account of early experiences editing Times.

Jan 1 Five columns to page becomes permanent layout.

April 27 Illustration of entrenchments at Badaioz, July 21 Announcement of American declaration of war against Britain.

July 3 First news of Wellington's victory at Victoria.

June 11 Visit to England of allied sovereigns. Aug 2 Illustration of St James's Park illuminations. Dec 6 Leader on Congress of Vienna

June 22 Duke of Wellington's despatch from Waterloo. June 23 Battle of Waterloo reported. July 22 Napoleon a prisoner.

Feb 6 Introduction of very small (6pt) type.

June 19 Opening of Waterloo Bridge. **Oct 25** Special supplement on high treason trial in Derby. **Nov 7/10** Black border issues for death of Princess Charlotte and her child.

May 23 Free supplement containing 4 pages of news and ads.

June 19 J Walter II leader denounces political friends, the Addingtons. Aug 20 Tyas's account of Peterloo. Dec 17 Leader on living conditions of poor.

Jan 31 Mourning borders for death of George III. July 9 Trial of Queen Caroline: Barnes supports Queen's cause. Aug 14 Exclusive: Queen Caroline's protest to King about her trial.

May 24 Leading article omitted. July 5 Death of Napoleon reported.

Mar 26 Personal column starts.

April 15 Supplement on Spanish revolution.

Feb 23 Open letter to Government from social reformer Robert Owen.

July 12 Six columns to page

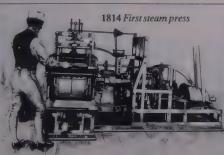
May 13 Story of Wellington taking Mrs Arbuthnot to fancy dress ball dressed as a man: Duke furious.

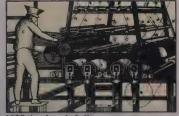
Aug 8 Second edition reports death of Canning

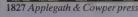
Jan 10 Exclusive: same-day report of break-up of Goderich's Ministry. Dec 6 Exclusive: Wellington's intention to introduce Catholic Emancipation Bill



1812 John Walter II



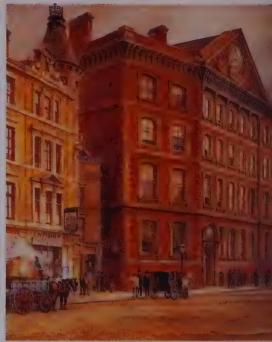






1825 Horse-drawn bus





- 1829 Catholic Emancipation Bill passed. London police force formed. First Oxford and Cambridge boat race at Henley George Stephenson's Rocket.
- 1630 George IV dies; succeeded by William IV. Revolution in France; Charles X abdicates; Louis Philippe becomes King. Wellington resigns; Grey Prime Minister.
- First Reform Bill rejected by Lords: riots break out. Charles Darwin sets off aboard the Beagle. Population of Great Britain
- 1832 William IV creates new peers to get Reform Bill passed; Irish and Scottish Reform Acts. Britain occupies Falkland Islands.
- 1833 Slavery abolished in British Empire. Sir John Ross discovers magnetic North Pole. National Gallery built.
- 1834 Tolpuddle Martyrs transported. Grey resigns over extension of Irish Coercion Act; Lord Melbourne Prime Minister. Wellington forms brief caretaker government. Peel becomes Prime Minister. Quadruple alliance with France, Spain and Portugal. Hansom cabs introduced. Palace of Westminster gutted by fire.
- 1835 Peel resigns. Melbourne Prime Minister. Britain has 338 miles of railway track. Boers begin Great Trek. Colt patents pistol and rifle. Fox-Talbot negative photograph.
- 1836 Compulsory registration of births, marriages and deaths. Potato famine in Ireland. Birth of Chartist movement.
- 1837 William IV dies; Victoria Queen. Morse invents the telegraph in New York, making collection of news easier.
- 1838 Anti Corn Law League set up. Typhus epidemic in London. UK-US steamship service. People's Charter.
- 1839 Bicycle invented. Great Western Railway telegraph links Paddington to West Drayton. Commons reject People's Charter. Cunard Line founded.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Jan 1 First whole-page advertisement appears on back page (collector's item). Another appears on May 1. Jan 19 First 8-page pager.

June 26 Issue announcing George IV's death sent to Dublin by special boat, establishing tradition of being first with the news. Circulation about 11,000.

William Delane made manager. J Walter II hands Barnes control of Times. Charles Babbage, inventor of calculating machine, made consultant on printing techniques.

J Walter II, 56, joins Whigs as MP for Berkshire. Number of staff about 100, half of them compositors.

July 5 Advertisement duty reduced to 1s 6d.

June 10 Lord Althorp, Chancellor of the Exchequer, sends letter to Brougham, Lord Chancellor, plotting war on Times: letter finds its way to Barnes. Sept 17 Relays of horse-drawn carriages from Edinburgh bring Earl Grey's speech: exclusive.

Francis Bacon promoted from drama critic to assistant editor. **April 18** John Murray dies. Barnes receives letter from Peel thanking him for help during his administration.

Sept 15 Stamp duty down from 4d to 1d; Times from 7d to 5d. Circulation about 10,000. Excise duty on paper reduced.

Pigeon post set up from Paris to Boulogne: 4 hours, compared with 14 hours by courier.

Leader-writer Sterling ('Magus') clashes with Barnes over policy.

Feb 11 Issue with report of Queen's betrothal sells 30,000. Dec 11 News of state trial delivered by 'extraordinary express' leaves Monmouth 4 pm, is in Times next day. Bacon dies.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

April 14 Passing of Catholic Emancipation Act celebrated.

Feb 11 Edward Sterling uses phrase "We thundered out that article..." on subject of cover-up inquest into Lord Graves's suicide. June 27 Obituary for George IV thought by Tory rivals to be libellous. July 16 Times answers critics over obituary.

Jan 29 Barnes preoccupied with passage of Reform Bill: series of articles 'thundering for Reform and calling for the Bill, the whole Bill and nothing but the Bill'.

June 6 Triumphant Reform Bill leader. June 18 Call for restraint as Wellington physically attacked.

Feb 26 Devastating attack on Lord Grey's Irish Coercion Bill. Dec 27 Whole page of book reviews.

May 7 Barnes leader reveals dislike of Palmerston, Foreign Secretary. May 24 Leader on effect of proposed reduction in stamp duty. June Succession of articles criticizing Poor Law Amendment Act. Nov 15 Exclusive: King dismisses Melbourne's Government. Dec 18 Barnes helps to draw up Peel's Tarnworth Manifesto, which paper publishes.

June 18 Charles Dickens a contributor.

May/June Barnes continues to attack Spring Rice, Chancellor, for wishing to harm Times by reducing stamp duty.

June 21-30 Black borders for death of King. Aug 3 Thackeray reviews Carlyle's French Revolution.

Feb 20 New engraving for title.

Feb 8 Report by Governor-General of Canada published before it is delivered to Parliament. May 8 Jubilant article on Whig collapse. May 13 Leader denounces 'Bedchamber plot'.



1829 First boat race

1831 Painting by Haydon: Waiting for The Times







1847 John Walter III



1840

1841

Penny post introduced; Penny Black, first adhesive postage stamp. Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. Houses of Parliament rebuilt by Sir Charles Barry.

British retreat from Kabul. Peel's second administration. Thomas Cook organizes his first excursion. First issue of Punch.

Britain acquires Hong Kong. Grace Darling rescues sailors.

Sir Charles Napier leads Conquest of Sind. Economist founded. William Wordsworth poet laureate.

Irish leader Daniel O'Connell convicted of seditious conspiracy. Bank of England empowered to control number of bank notes in circulation. Wood pulp paper invented.

Great potato famine. Peel resigns over Corn Laws but returns to power a few days later. Railway mania sweeps England; small investors lose heavily. Pneumatic tyre invented.

1846 Peel repeals Corn Laws. Peel resigns over new Irish Coercion Bill; Russell Prime Minister. Dickens editor of Daily News. End of Sikh war

10 Hours Act reduces working day. Gold Rush starts in California

1848 Revolution in Paris; Louis Philippe abdicates. Louis Napoleon President of the Republic. Insurrections in Italy and Austria. First Public Health Act. Rotary press first introduced.

Row over Palmerston's role in arms sale to Sicilian rebels. Women admitted to London University. Harrods founded.

Roman Catholic hierarchy re-established in England. First telegraph cable laid, between Dover and Calais.

INSIDE THE TIMES

May 15 Henry Reeve, Clerk of Appeals to Privy Council, becomes chief leader writer. Sterling finally leaves after argument over France. John Thadeus Delane, son of the manager, joins staff aged 22. Barnes ill.

April 27 J Walter II Conservative MP for Nottingham; unseated by petition. **May 7** Barnes dies, John Delane appointed editor at 23.

John Cameron MacDonald becomes staff reporter.

Three presses now used to print Times: 62 compositors employed: 40 on ads, 22 for news.

William Howard Russell contributor on Irish affairs. Delane appoints leader writers: Robert Lowe, Thomas Mozley, Henry Annesley, Roundell Palmer, Leonard Courtney.

Railway mania brings in ads worth £5,000. George William Dasent joins staff: later becomes Delane's assistant and brother-in-law.

Campbell Foster appointed Times representative in Ireland. Irregularities found in accounts of Alsager's communications department (costing £10,000 a year to run): Alsager and William Delane agree to leave. Alsager cuts throat. Nov 5 J Walter III joint manager with his father.

July 28 J Walter II dies, aged 71. J Walter III takes over, becomes MP. Aug 21 Mowbray Morris new manager.

Times starts Irish Famine Fund. **Dec 29** Applegath vertical rotary press introduced: costly and unreliable. John Cameron MacDonald becomes chief engineer. Russell joins staff.

First year for which complete accounts remain: previous accounts destroyed, possibly by J Walter II. Advertising revenue, £107,806; all revenue £283,611; expenditure £261,336; dividends £21,700.

Morris reacts negatively to new telegraph: 'I wish it hadn't been invented.' Prefers accuracy and privacy of letters.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Mar Massive critical review of Brougham's Oration of Demosthenes upon the Crown spread over five issues. May 18 Times accuses Alan Bogle of forgery and fraud. July 15 Reeve deprecates exclusion of France from Quadruple treaty.

Oct Times presented with memorial tablet by grateful City firms for Bogle exposé.

Jan 28 Leader on prisons. June 23 Income Tax Bill.

May 4/5 Black border issues for death of Duke of Sussex. Express news of Napier campaign.

Feb 13 Russell's account of Daniel O'Connell trial appears only 29 hours after being sent from Dublin. **Aug 6** First telegraphed news story: birth of Queen's son at Windsor.

Nov 17 Supplement exposing railway investment fever. **Dec 2** Report from Russell on Irish potato famine. **Dec 4** Exclusive: Cabinet decision to repeal Corn Laws following year.

Mar 24 Report by 'extraordinary express' on coup in Madrid.

July 31 Telegraphic despatch from Marseilles on Indian situation.

Sept 16 Account of J Walter II's career.

Feb 27 Extraordinary Sunday issue (on galley proof) free: latest news from France. April 11 Leader on Chartist demonstrations. July 10 Tennyson starts book reviewing.

Jan 9 Critical article by Delane on sale of arms to Sicilians sanctioned by Palmerston. **Dec 11** 150 copies of Times delivered in Paris at 1.30 pm on day of publication.

Feb 11 Defensive article says: 'Our monopoly is the monopoly of Twining teas... and Fortnum and Mason's hams.' **Feb 22** Palmerston criticized over Don Pacifico affair.









- Lord John Russell resigns over Franchise Bill, returns to office. Great Exhibition in Hyde Park.
- 1852 Lord Derby Prime Minister. Duke of Wellington dies.
 Disraeli's budget defeated. Lord Aberdeen forms coalition.
- 1853 Start of Crimean War. Factory Act restricts child labour in mills. Smallpox vaccination compulsory.
- 1854 Britain and France declare war on Russia; Allied forces land on Crimean Peninsula and lay siege to Sebastopol; victorious at Balaclava and Inkermann.
- 1855 Aberdeen resigns over Crimean War; Palmerston Prime Minister. Russians evacuate Sebastopol. 200 new British newspapers founded, inc Daily Telegraph. Riots in Hyde Park against prohibition on Sunday trading. First London pillar boxes
- 1856 Treaty of Paris ends Crimean war. Britain at war with China and Persia; annexes Indian states. Big Ben cast.
- 1857 Siege of Delhi; Indian army mutinies at Meerut. Transatlantic cable completed. Westminster clock tower built.
- 1858 Palmerston resigns; Lord Derby Prime Minister. Covent Garden Opera House built. Peace in India. Jews admitted to Parliament.
- 1859 Disraeli's Reform Bill defeated. Palmerston Prime Minister. France and Sardinia at war with Austria; Austrians defeated at Magenta and Solferino. Work on Suez Canal begins.
- 1860 Anglo-French commercial treaty. Last bare fist fight championship. Garibaldi's redshirts take Palermo and Naples
- 1861 American Civil War; Britain remains neutral. First Post Office Savings Bank opened. First Italian parliament meets, Turin. Prince Albert dies. Pasteur's germ theory.
- 1862 Garibaldi riots in Hyde Park. Bismarck Prussian Prime Minister; 'blood and iron' speech.
- 1863 Thiers forms Third Party against Napoleon III. German troops enter Holstein. First electric lighthouse. Football Association founded. London's first Underground opens.
- Britain tries to settle Prussian-Danish dispute over Schleswig-Holstein. First national conference of trade union delegates. Geneva Convention makes medical aid in war zones neutral.
- 1865 Lincoln assassinated. End of American Civil War. Palmerston dies; replaced by Lord John Russell. Reform League formed. Fenian leaders arrested. Salvation Army founded.
- 1866 Lord Derby Prime Minister. Gladstone's Reform Bill defeated. Austro-Prussian war. North German Confederation formed under Prussia. English banking crisis.
- 1867 Second Reform Act. Fenian explosion at Clerkenwell prison. Garibaldi taken prisoner. Livingstone explores Congo.
- 1868 Lord Derby resigns; Disraeli Prime Minister. Gladstone wins election; Prime Minister and Chancellor. Revolution in Spain.
- 1869 Suez Canal opens. Cutty Sark launched. First women's college, Girton, Cambridge, founded. Ballbearings, celluloid, margarine, washing machine all invented.
- 1870 Elementary Education Act passed. Irish Land Act. France declares war on Germany; Bismarck's Ems telegram; Napoleon III taken prisoner at Sedan; Third Republic proclaimed; Germans besiege Paris.
- 1871 Paris falls; armistice. Thiers French President. Stanley meets Livingstone. Trade unions legalized in England.
- 1872 Spanish Civil War; Don Carlos escapes to France. Ballot Act ensures secret voting. Licensing hours introduced. New Public Health Act improves sanitation.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Morris expresses no interest in new news agency set up by Julius Reuter. **Feb 10** First 16-page paper.

New machine room for two Applegath presses. Lawson, Times printer, dies: succeeded by Wetherall.

Aug 4 Newspaper advertisement duty abolished: price of Times remains 5d.

Mar 7 Thomas Chenery Constantinople correspondent.
April 20 Births, marriages, deaths transferred to front page.
Oct Crimea Fund started by Times: Florence Nightingale sails with 38 nurses and John MacDonald.

June 15 J Walter III inserts ad offering £1,000 for cheap method of making paper (annual paper bill £160,000). July 1 Stamp duty abolished; postage now to be paid by weight: Times, already 1½d more than other papers outside London, suffers. July 2 Times reduced to 4d. Oct Reeve leaves.

Jan Circulation 55,407. J Walter III explores new printing techniques. Publishes second edition at noon.

Dec 28 Times discovers a way of bending papier maché moulds to form curved stereotype plates fixed on to Applegath's press. Indian mutiny telegrams bill $\mathfrak{L}5,000$.

Aug Two 10-cylinder Hoe machines bought, costing £10,000. Production now 20,000 sheets an hour. Dec 7 Times subscribes to Reuter: £20 a month. Dec 24 Times Fund for Homeless Poor raises £8,000.

Mar Times employs first woman war correspondent, in Italy; replaced by Antonio Gallenga. Mar 31 Whole paper printed using cast stereotype plates. Nov 15 Automatic ink pump.

Times establishes special wires to Berlin, Vienna. Walter offers discount to distributors, W H Smith, in return for selling Times at same price throughout country.

May Palmerston offers Delane civil service post because of eye problems. June 21 First 24-page issue: record 4,000 ads. Oct 1 Duty on paper abolished; Times reduces price to 3d.

J Walter III begins experiments with reels of paper rather than sheets

MacDonald and J Calverley invent new type of rotary press. William Howard Russell given pension of $\mathfrak{L}300$ p.a. but remains occasional contributor until his death.

Staff of 10 employed in advertising office.

Circulation about 65,000 but Telegraph's sponsorship of Stanley's expedition to find Livingstone makes theirs 240,000. Mackay sacked.

J Watter III patents new 'Watter' press: first reel-fed machine to print both sides of paper, 10,500 copies an hour. J Watter III visits America. First 'display' ad.

Moberty Bell appointed Cairo correspondent, uses coded messages during Abyssinian war.

Mar Robert Lowe stops writing leaders to concentrate on political career. April J Walter III admits having built up £200,000 contingency fund: shareholders demand payout.

Four 'Walter' presses now in use.

Feb Dasent resigns. William Stebbing new assistant editor. Typesetting machines designed by Karl Kastenbein built at PHS. Mowbray Morris ill: MacDonald takes over. Delane ill. Dec 24 John Walter (son of J Walter III) drowns.

June J Walter III institutes sale or return system with W H Smith. Land in Queen Victoria Street bought for £6,202.

Nov MacDonald ill through overwork; Pembroke Scott Stephens temporary manager.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Dec 3 Napoleon III's coup d'état condemned. **Dec 22** Palmerston's resignation announced.

Feb 6 Delane defines freedom of press and role of journalist. **Dec 25** Exclusive: list of new cabinet appointments.

Dec 13 Call for war with Russia.

Feb 28 Ultimatum to Russia published before Czar has seen it.
Mar 11 Czar's plans to partition Turkey disclosed. Sept 16
Russell's account of men dying in Crimea for want of medical attention. Oct 12 Leader starting Crimea Fund.

Jan 27 Duke of Newcastle suggests stopping Russell's rations. June 19 Letter of thanks from Florence Nightingale. June 22 W H Stowe, sent to administer Crimea Fund, dies from cholera. Oct 6 After 20 years of attacks, Times becomes pro-Palmerston.

Jan 17 Exclusive: Russian acceptance of Crimea peace proposals.

Mar 4 Support for Palmerston's decision to attack Canton after Chinese seize British schooner. June 27 First news of Indian mutiny.

Jan 14 Leader welcomes survival of Napoleon III after Orsini bomb attack. **May 6** Russell's report of relief of Lucknow: 2 pages.

Dec 26 Review praises Darwin's Origin of the Species.

Jan 6 Delane supports Italian liberation. April 18 Report of last bare fist fight.

Aug 7 Russell reports panic of Northern troops at Bull Run. Oct 17 Review of Dickens's Great Expectations. Nov 28 Potentially explosive Trent Affair played down in Times.

April 4 Russell returns after Federal army permission to go south refused. Pro-South Charles Mackay takes over.

Mar 11 Prince and Princess of Wales wedding: 108,000 copies sold.

Jan Series of leaders supporting Denmark over Schleswig-Holstein question. April 6 Letter from Queen defending her semi-retirement from public life.

April 27 Article on Lincoln's assassination.
Oct 19 Palmerston's obituary: 76,065 copies sold.

Feb 28 Delane miscalculates rumour of internal government problems over Reform Bill. **June 26** Forecast of Lord Stanley's appointment as Foreign Secretary.

May 29 Col. Burke sentenced to death for treason. Times's plea for clemency helps to commute sentence.

Aug 13 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland described as highly original. **Oct 26** Times pro-Gladstone; predicts election, which Disraeli loses, calling Times malignant.

Jan 29 First table of contents. Aug-Dec 26 letters from William O'Connor Morris on Irish land question.

June 10 Dickens obituary. July 16 Leader on French war with Germany. July 25 Publication of Franco-German treaty of 1866, leaked by Bismarck, Nov 19 Miniature version of Times sent by pigeon to besieged Paris.

Jan 20 Russell reports King of Prussia being proclaimed German Emperor. Jan 25 Exclusive: capitulation of Paris.

Feb 14 Gladstone accused of mishandling Collier and Ewelme scandals. Feb 27 Blowitz exclusive interview with Comte de Paris. April 3 Blowitz reports Thiers speech.





1897 The Times's Diamond Jubilee portrait of Queen Victoria

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- 3 Spanish Republic formed. Gladstone defeated on Irish University Bill; resigns briefly. Ashanti War starts. Remington typewriters go into production (cost £20).
- 1874 Disraeli Prime Minister. Ashanti War ends. Factory Act introduces 56-hour week.
- 1875 Risings in Bosnia and Herzegovina against Turks. London's main sewage system completed. Capt Webb swims Channel. Submarine invented. Second Public Health Act.
- 1876 Turks massacre Bulgarians, British fleet sent to Besika Bay. Bell invents telephone. Disraeli made Earl of Beaconsfield.
- 1877 Queen Victoria Empress of India. Russia declares war on Turkey; invades Rumania. Edison invents microphone and phonograph. First tennis championships at Wimbledon.
- 1878 Treaty of Berlin signed to settle Balkan problems and defend Ottoman Empire. Edison and Swan invent electric lamp. Mannlicher invents repeating rifle.
- 1879 Zulu War. Germany annexes Alsace Lorraine.
- 6 Gladstone Prime Minister. Transvaal declares independence from Britain; Kruger proclaims Boer Republic. Education Act: schooling compulsory for 5-10-year-olds. Parcel post.
- Armistice recognizes Transvaal Republic. New Irish Coercion Act passed; new Irish Land Act makes concessions to Land League. D'Oyly Carte builds Savoy Theatre.
- 1882 Parnell founds National League. Lord Frederick Cavendish, Ireland Chief Secretary, and Burke, Under Secretary, murdered in Phoenix Park. War with Egypt.
- 1883 Orient Express's first Paris-Istanbúl run. First 10-storey skyscraper, Chicago.
- 884 Third Reform Act passed. Franchise Bill blocked by Lords. General Gordon reaches Khartoum; Mahdi refuses to negotiate.
- 1885 British evacuate Sudan. Gladstone resigns. Salisbury's Conservative Government. Carl Benz builds single-cylinder motor car. Eastman makes first coated photographic paper.
 - Gladstone Prime Minister; Irish Home Rule Bill defeated. Salisbury Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary. Parnell's Tenant Relief Bill defeated.
- 1887 Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. 'Bloody Sunday' Social Democratic Federation meeting broken up by police and troops, Trafalgar Square. Linotype machine invented.

1886

- 1888 Women match-makers strike in London. Zululand annexed by Britain. Financial Times first published.
- Research London dock strike; dockers win 6d per hour. British South Africa Company begins colonization of 'Rhodesia'. Eiffel Tower built. Celluloid film produced.
- 1890 Parnell cleared; cited in O'Shea divorce case; Home Rule supporters divided. Bismarck dismissed by new Emperor. Uganda occupied. London's first electric Underground. Forth Bridge opens.
- 1891 Gladstone advocates extensive social reforms. Fees abolished for elementary education. Parnell dies.
- 892 Conservatives defeated on vote of confidence. Liberal Government: Gladstone Prime Minister; Asquith, Home Secretary. Electric oven invented.
- 893 Keir Hardie founds Independent Labour Party. Gladstone's second Irish Home Rule Bill rejected by Lords. Revolt against British South Africa Co in Matabele. Nansen's North Pole expedition. Henry Ford's first car. Zip fastener invented.
- 1894 Local Government Act passed. Gladstone resigns; Lord Rosebery Prime Minister. Death duties introduced. French army captain Alfred Dreyfus convicted of treason.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Kastenbein's typesetting machine used; first London daily to be set mechanically. Blowitz Paris correspondent while Laurence Oliphant away. **April** Morris resigns.

April 27 Morris dies. MacDonald, 52, again manager. Times linked by wire to Paris. Paper moves to new building in Queen Victoria Street, designed by J Walter III.

Feb 1 Blowitz becomes chief correspondent in Paris. J Walter III adds rotary type-casters, designed by Frederick Wicks, to Kastenheins

Dividend for year highest to date: £93,000.

Donald MacKenzie Wallace becomes foreign correspondent. **Nov 9** Delane reluctantly retires through ill health: £2,000 pension. Thomas Chenery, 51, editor. Circulation 62,193.

Feb 8 Times Fund to preserve Crystal Palace. Jöhn Brainerd Capper joins parliamentary gallery staff of 18.

Nov 22 Delane dies, 62. Circulation down to 57,991.

June George Earle Buckle appointed second assistant editor.

July Times allocated special writing room in Palace of Westminster.

Circulation about 41,000.

July 26 J Walter III publishes The Summary: first London moming paper to cost $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Feb 11 Chenery dies, 59. Buckle, 29, editor. Oct 11 The Summary discontinued. Law reports published separately (until 1952). Edward Cantwall head of foreign staff. Antonio Gallenga dismissed for breaking anonymity rule.

Arthur Walter, J Walter III's son, joint manager, with MacDonald: Mrs C F Sibley, shareholder, fights appointment. Rift between J Walter III and shareholders, over finances.

April Edward Houston tells Buckle of Parnell letters connecting him with Phoenix Park murders. Buckle fails to consult J Woulfe Flanagan, Times Irish expert.

Circulation around 50,000.

Oct 22 Special Commission begins investigation of Times's allegations against Charles Pamell.

Feb 20 Richard Pigott cross-examined at Parnell hearing: Times case begins to collapse. Mar 10 Buckle offers resignation: J Walter III refuses it. Nov 22 Parnell Commission over: costs Times £200,000. Dec 10 MacDonald dies.

Feb 13 Parnell Commission report. J Walter III refuses money to help Times. Godfrey Walter, Arthur's step-brother, runs printing works. Moberly Bell helps manage Times; sets up foreign news service; Flora Shaw colonial correspondent.

Nov 1 Donald MacKenzie Wallace, 50, made head of foreign department at £1,950 a year. J Walter III retires.

Valentine Chirol Berlin correspondent. Curzon contributes to Times, financing travels. James David Bourchier becomes correspondent in Rumania and Bulgaria.

Mrs Sibley asks to see accounts. Times decides against investing in Linotype typesetting machines.

Nov 3 J Walter III, 76, dies, leaving Arthur two thirds and Godfrey one third of buildings and printing works. **Dec** Chirol leaves for Far East; C C Earle covers in Berlin.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Jan 10 Napoleon III obituary.

Feb 16 Delane leader on Gladstone's fall, arrival of Disraeli.

April 1 First weather map. Dec 4 Birth of Winston Churchill

Jan 1 Blowitz interview with Alfonso XII. May 6 'War scare' story: Germany intends to attack France. Nov 26 Advance news of Government purchase of Suez Canal shares.

Aug 20 J W Davidson writes on Wagner's Ring from first Bayreuth Festival.

Jan 5 First Weekly Edition: 24 pages, price 2d.

April 9 A third edition published at 5.20 pm. July 13 Advance text of Treaty of Berlin published. Sept 7 Blowitz given exclusive interview with Bismarck.

Dec 30 Tay Bridge disaster reported.

Oct 18 Letter from Capt Boycott describing harassment by Irish National Land League supporters.

April 20 Obituary of Lord Beaconsfield (Disraeli).

May 5 Leader questions Gladstone's Irish policy of concessions to Parnell. May 8 Outrage at Phoenix Park murders.

Nov 2 Blowitz on Orient Express run. **Nov 23** Frank Power report of Hicks Pasha massacre in Sudan.

Jan 19 Plan to send Gordon to Sudan welcomed. Mar 31 Leader insists on Government sending help to Khartourn. Sept 29 Despatch from Power. Oct 9 Outrage at Boer encroachment into Bechuanaland. Nov 17 Tribute to Power.

Jan 1 Times centenary acknowledged briefly on page 7.
Feb 12 Report of fall of Khartoum and murder of Gordon.

Feb 22 Agony column headed Personal for first time. Dec 21 Buckle ad for famous signatures to check authenticity of Pamell letters. Dec 23 Buckle exclusive: Lord Randolph Churchill's resignation as Chancellor.

Mar 7 First article in Pamellism and Crime series. April 18
Alleged Parnell letters published. July 20 Leader urges use of new Criminal Law Bill against Irish Terrorism.

Jan 2 Centenary of Times noticeably low-key: a look at major issues of 100 years before, plus a brief history.

Feb 28 Article admitting Parnell letters to be forgeries but sticking by general accusation. Nov 1 Backing for British South Africa Company. Throughout year: letters from George Curzon on Persia.

May 29 Flora Shaw's first article, on Egyptian finance. Aug 12 Cardinal Newman's obituary.

April 3 Article on Trans-Siberian Railway by F Dillon Woon.

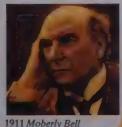
Jan 28 Leader on Samuel Plimsoll MP and dangers of overloading merchant ships. Mar 5 Leader on site for Henry Tate's art gallery. Mar 26 Leader opposes pay for MPs.

July 7 Duke of York wedding. Sept 9 Second Home Rule Bill leader.

June 23 Leader censures Foreign Office over secret lease of territory in Congo. Dec 24 Leader criticizes unfairness of Dreyfus trial.



1910 Arthur Walter 1906 San Francisco earthquake







1914 Mrs Pankhurst arrested

1914 First World War recruiting poster

1895 Salisbury Prime Minister. Röntgen discovers x-rays. Lumière invents motion-picture camera. First Prom. Marconi invents wireless telegraphy. Safety razor invented. Jameson Raid.

1896 Jameson surrenders. Cecil Rhodes resigns Cape Colony premiership. Baden Powell puts down Matabele revolt. Alfred Harmsworth (Northcliffe) starts Daily Mail, priced ½d.

1897 Beginning of Gold Rush in Klondike. Alfred Dreyfus' statement found to be forgery. Tate Gallery opened. RAC founded.

1898 British defeat Sudanese at Omdurman, Campbell-Bannerman becomes Liberal leader. Bismarck and Gladstone die. First photograph using artificial light, Zeppelin builds airship.

1899 Trial of Dreyfus reopened at Rennes; pardoned. Kruger provokes Boer War. Valdemar Poulsen invents tape recorder. Aspirin invented.

1900 Relief of Ladysmith and Mafeking. Ramsay MacDonald ILP secretary. Anti-western Boxer risings. Commonwealth of Australia created. C Arthur Pearson founds Daily Express.

1901 Edward VII accession. Kitchener and Botha peace negotiations collapse. Marconi's first transatlantic message. Britain's first submarine launched.

1902 Anglo-Japanese alliance. Peace signed with Boers at Vereeniging. British casualties: 5, 774; Boers: 4,000. A J Balfour Prime Minister. Education Act passed.

1903 Emmeline Pankhurst founds National Women's Social and Political Union. Taxis appear on London streets. First powered aircraft flown by Wright brothers. 20 mph speed limit for cars in Britain

1904 Japan declares war on Russia. Entente cordiale between Britain and France over Morocco. Col Younghusband leads British invasion of Tibet. Daily Mirror founded.

1905 Anglo-French military convention. Bloody Sunday demonstration, St Petersburg; general strike; mutiny on battleship Potemkin; Czar issues manifesto. Sinn Fein Party founded, Dublin. Balfour resigns. Liberal Government: Campbell-Bannerman Prime Minister; Asquith Chancellor. Einstein formulates Theory of Relativity. AA founded.

1906 Election: 29 Labour MPs. Algeciras conference. San Francisco earthquake kills hundreds. Dreyfus returns home.

1907 Colour photography invented by Lurnière. Territorial Army formed. Britain signs agreement with Russia over Asia. New Zealand becomes British dominion. Boy Scouts founded.

1908 Campbell-Bannerman resigns: Asquith Prime Minister; Lloyd George Chancellor. Old Age Pensions Bill passed. London hosts Olympics. Zeppelin disaster near Echterdingen. First model-T Ford. Bakelite invented.

1909 Navy Bill introduced. Lloyd George's People's Budget rejected in Lords. Parliament dissolved. Blériot flies Channel. Selfridges opens. Girl Guides founded.

1910 Election returns minority Liberal Government. Edward VII dies; George V King. Conference on House of Lords reform fails. Dr Crippen executed. Knossos excavated.

911 Official Secrets Act. Parliament Act: Lords lose power of veto. Dock strike; railway strike. Winston Churchill First Lord of the Admiralty. Balfour resigns as leader of Unionist Party; succeeded by Bonar Law. Suffragette riots.

1912 Minimum wage Bill ends miners' strike. Ulstermen oppose Home Rule Bill. London dock strike. Anglo-French naval convention. Post Office takes over telephone system. Titanic sinks. Scott reaches South Pole.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Godfrey Walter imports Hoe presses from America. Oct George (China) Morrison sent on secret mission to Indo-China. Times contracted to produce Hansard for 3 years.

Wickham Steed Berlin correspondent. Times Atlas published: £2,000 profit.

Feb Commons Select Committee on Jameson raid.
Mar Wickham Steed goes to Rome, succeeded by George
Saunders. July 13 Jameson Inquiry report exonerates
Chamberlain, blames Rhodes, ignores Times.

Harmsworth interested in buying Times shares; Arthur Walter refuses. With American booksellers Horace Hooper and W M Jackson, Times reprints Encyclopaedia Britannica: £108,000 profit over 7 years

Century Dictionary published by Hooper and Jackson in association with Times. Chirol foreign editor. William Hubbard succeeds Wickham Steed in Rome. Circulation 35.642

Mar Saunders in Berlin subjected to anti-British attack; Bell sends letter of support. Oct 18 Chirol travels to Far East.

Jan Mrs Sibley takes Walter to court over refusal to allow her to assign shares to son. May Moberly Bell meets Theodore Roosevelt in America. June 28 Chirol returns.

May Harmsworth shows further interest in controlling shares. June William Lavino replaces Blowitz in Paris; Blowitz dies. Nov 25 Wickham Steed posted to Vienna.

Encyclopaedia Britannica competition, worth £1,000, ends in disagreement over answers. **May 28** D D Braham, Times correspondent, expelled from Russia. **May 30** China Morrison expelled from Peking.

Jan 1 A W Jose appointed Australian correspondent. Coverage of Russo-Japanese War costs £28,000 in 10 months, including charter of wireless ship.

Jan 1 Col Charles à Court Repington, 46, military correspondent. Jan Bell offers Times on discount subscription. Sept 11 Walter and shareholders row over Times Book Club venture with Hooper. Book trade offended: ads worth £10,000 lost. Sept 12 Mrs Sibley issues writ applying for transfer of Times property to limited company.

Horace Hooper appointed advertising manager. Circulation raised to 44,000.

July 18 Sibley v Walter case concluded. Walter appointed receiver; Times put up for sale. Takeover scheme by Bell and Hooper rejected.

Jan Godfrey Walter arranges sale to Arthur Pearson. Bell sees Northcliffe: supported by Hooper, Buckle, Chirol. Mar Northcliffe; buys Times for £320,000: identity kept secret. April 29 The Times Publishing Company registered: Arthur Walter chairman. Walters exchange printing works for shares, retaining property. July 28 Monotypes replace Kastenbeins. Aug 9 Lavino dies, Saunders replaces him in Paris.

Jan 8 Entire issue set by Monotype. Mary Mills first woman secretary. Aug 17 Northcliffe appoints Reginald Nicholson assistant manager. Sept Economies in foreign coverage.

Feb 21 Arthur Walter, 64, dies. Feb 24 Son, John Walter IV, former Times correspondent in Spain, new chairman, 37. Flora Shaw leaves Times; succeeded by L S Amery.

Feb 14 Geoffrey Robinson (later Dawson) joins staff after resigning previous year as editor of Johannesburg Star.

April 5 Bell dies at desk; Nicholson new manager. George Murray Brumwell organizes news diary. Dec 21 Chirol resigns. Aubrey Kennedy special leader writer.

Buckle retires; **July 28** Dawson appointed editor. **July** U V Bogaerde joins Times as an artist. **Sept** Northoliffe appoints circulation manager. **Dec Machine room unionized**. **Dec 25** last Christmas Day issue of Times.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

April 23 Leader attacks British policy over Sino-Japanese war.
Oct 25 Exclusive: Trans-Siberian railway to cross Chinese territory. Oct-Nov Flora Shaw articles on Transvaal.

Jan 1 Publication of 'women and children' letter, alleged reason for Jameson Raid. Jan 1 First chess diagram. Jan 4 Publication of Kaiser's telegram backing Kruger.

April 17 Turkey at war with Greece, covered by Bourchier.
June 5 Times disapproves of Anglo-Chinese Treaty. June 22
Diamond Jubilee number: full-page colour portrait of Queen.
Nov 27 Dreyfus leader advises public retrial.

Jan 10 Chirol suggests British loan to China, taken seriously by Government. May 20 Gladstone's obituary.
Oct 13 7½-column pro-Dreyfus letter published.

Jan 9 Alliance advocated between Britain, USA, Japan and Germany. June 3 Signed confession by Esterhazy on Dreyfus case published. Sept Blowitz gets hold of telegram from Queen Victoria on Dreyfus: Times refuses to print it.

May Report on Relief of Mafeking. July 17 Morrison obituary, after false report of death in siege of Peking. Oct 14/15 Morrison eye-witness account of siege.

Jan 'Turn of century' debate. Jan 3 Morrison exclusive: Russia wins military rights on Manchurian railway. Jan 23 Death of Queen Victoria: black border issue.

Jan 17 First Times Literary Supplement. **Dec 22** Sir George Parkin, Times correspondent, describes sending first news message on wireless across Atlantic.

June 6 Leader on Foreign Office weakness over expulsions: concern for Saunders's position. **Sept 3** Article: The New Revolutionary Parties in Russia.

April 16 Saunders reports German unease over Anglo-French agreement. July 18 Financial and Commercial Supplement, edited by Harcourt Kitchin.

Jan 20 First instalment of Disraeli's unfinished novel, Falconet. Jan 23 First account of uprising in St Petersburg, by Robert Wilton of Glasgow Herald. Mar 1 First Engineering Supplement. April 13 Article by William Lavino, Paris correspondent, raising question of British attitude should Germany invade France.

Jan 15 Times admits underestimating Labour Party's importance. Sept 5 Leader on balance of power in Europe.

July 15 Headings first used over leaders.

Mar 17 Sale of Times reported. Oct 5 Steed, Vienna correspondent, reports Bulgaria's forthcoming declaration of independence and Austro-Hungarian annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Jan 1 Leader on old-age pensions, Jan 6 Warning of menace to European peace. May 24 First Empire Supplement (on Empire Day). July 26 Leader on Blériot.

First editorial conferences held. **May 23** Edward VII memorial issue. **Sept 6** First monthly Educational Supplement (free). **Oct 1** First Women's Supplement (ends after 13 issues).

Jan 23 Repington series begins: Tendencies in the German Army. Jan 30 Northoliffe orders article opposing Declaration of London. May 5 Start of opposition to National Insurance Bill. July 22 Leaders endorse Lloyd George speech opposing 'peace at any price', attack Asquith's 'coup d'état' over Lords.

July 27 Arthur Shadwell, industrial correspondent, argues against state medical service plan. Sept 10 40,000th issue, with Printing Supplement. Dec 10 'Grouping of Powers' leader by Flanagan as Triple Alliance renewed.



1916 The Somme

me 1917 Mata Hari executed



1922 Gandhi arrested



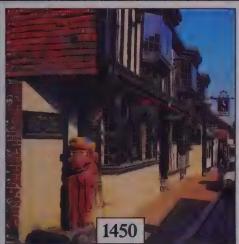
1922 John Walter IV



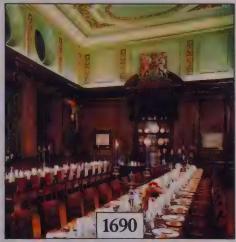


1927 The first talkie

The Times that have made us great.



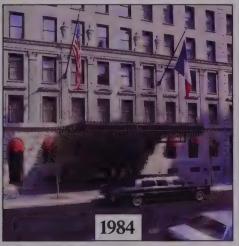
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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED SCOTTISH LIFE OFFICES

OUTSIDE THE TIMES

- Home Rule Bill rejected. Suffragettes try to blow up Lloyd George's House. Balkan War spreads. Zabern Affair in Alsace and Lorraine endangers Anglo-German relations. Gandhi 1913 arrested. First woman magistrate in England.
- Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand at Sarajevo. Buckingham Palace conference fails. Britain declares war on Germany and Austria. Press censorship introduced. Germans bomb England. Shackleton's Antarctic expedition. Panama Canal opened. Schweitzer founds Lambaréné hospital. New Statesman and Nation founded.
- Landings at Gallipoli. Lusitania sunk. Coalition Government; Asquith Prime Minister. Zeppelin attacks on London.
- Allies evacuate Gallipoli. Dublin Easter rising suppressed; Roger Casement executed. Battle of Jutland. Battle of the Somme. Asquith resigns; Lloyd George heads Coalition. Rasputin assassinated. British summertime introduced.
- Russia declared republic. Battles of Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele, Verdun. Palestine: Allenby takes command, Balfour Declaration, Turks surrender Jerusalem. Allies execute Mata Hari as spy.
- People Act: vote for women over 30. Allied offensive on Western Front. RAF replaces RFC. Armistice signed. Lloyd George elected Prime Minister, Balfour Foreign Secretary.
- Paris Peace Conference. IRA formed. Belfast, Clyde shipbuilding strikes. Mining: Sankey Commission. Railway strike. Afghan War. Amritsar massacre. Lady Astor first woman MP in House. Rutherford splits atom.
- Conscription abolished. Black and Tans recruited to suppress IRA. Government of Ireland Act passed; South and Ulster divided. Miners' strike. Gandhi begins civil disobedience campaign.
- Trade agreement with Russia. Miners' strike; state of emergency declared. Irish Treaty signed. Winston Churchill Colonial Secretary. Hitler's storm troopers terrorize political opponents. Chequers becomes PM's official residence.
- Gandhi arrested. Lloyd George resigns; Conservative Government under Bonar Law. Irish Free State formed. BBC begins broadcasting. Glasgow to London hunger marches. Mussolini march on Rome. Self-winding watch invented by John Harwood. Lord Rothermere inherits Daily Mail. Marie Stopes birth-control meetings.
- Bonar Law resigns; Baldwin Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain Chancellor. Military coup in Spain. First Wembley FA Cup Final. Keynes's Tract on Monetary Reform.
- First Labour Government; Ramsay MacDonald Prime Minister; defeated; resigns. Zinoviev letter published. Conservatives elected; Baldwin Prime Minister, Churchill Chancellor, Dawes Report on Reparations with Germany.
- Royal (Samuel) Commission on miners' wage claim. Unemployment Insurance Act. Queen Alexandra dies. Hitler reorganizes Nazi party. Craze for Charleston and crosswords. Baird invents TV.
- Samuel Commission report results in 9-day General Strike; miners strike for 6 months. Imperial Conference in London. Russia expels Trotsky and Zinoviev. British Electricity Board established. Kodak produce 16mm movie film.
- General strikes made illegal; union levy set up for Labour Party. Naval arms talks between Britain, USA and Japan fail. The Jazz Singer, first talking film.
- Women over 21 get vote. Asquith dies. Chiang Kai-shek President of China. Emmeline Pankhurst dies. Amelia Earhart 1928 first woman to fly Atlantic. Baird demonstrates colour TV. First Mickey Mouse film.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Jan Northcliffe buys out Kennedy Jones, business partner, and chief negotiator in buying Times. Northcliffe agrees that on his death Walter can buy back Times. May 5 Price 2d. R M Barrington-Ward and William Francis Casey join staff.

Mar Saunders succeeded in Paris by George Adam. W Lints Smith second assistant manager. Composing room unionized. Mar 16 Times, 1d, printed on new Goss machines 150,000 copies. Intertype machines introduced. Aug 21 Barrington-Ward, secretary to editor, joins army. Aug 31 British Red Cross Fund raises over £16m through Times.

Oct Howard Corbett appointed joint manager. Circulation

Nov 27 Northcliffe publishes book of war memoirs – hint of megalomania. **Nov 30** Price raised to $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Feb 19 Price raised to 2d. July 2 Library Edition begins (renamed Royal Edition, 1922).

Jan Repington sacked by Northcliffe. Feb Northcliffe appointed Director of Propaganda in Enemy Countries. Mar 11 Price of Times 3d.

Feb 17 Dawson resigns over his support for Lloyd George. Wickham Steed appointed editor. **June 14** Northcliffe has throat operation: draws salary (£5,000 p.a.) for first time. R J Shaw, expert on Irish affairs, joins staff.

Mar Willmot Harsant Lewis Washington correspondent. June 23 A woman's bi-monthly magazine starts, 1s 6d (folds Feb 1921). Oct 26 Sir Campbell Stuart managing director. Dec Major cost-cutting exercise. B K Long foreign editor. Lints Smith manager. Westminster Abbey Fund starts.

Mar Northcliffe complains about Steed's style: threatens to sell paper. July 18 Steed and Northcliffe go to America. Long resigns as foreign editor: Harold Williams takes over. Circulation 110,000.

Mar 2 Times introduces motor insurance for readers.
Bogaerde first art editor. April 21 Royal Edition. May/June
J Walter IV sacrifices option to buy back Times. June 8
Northcliffe in Paris, certified insane. Aug 4 Northcliffe, 57,
dies. Sept 14 Campbell Stuart resigns: Lints Smith takes over.
Oct 22 Court approves Major J J Astor's bid of £1,580,000 for
Times. J Walter IV joint-chief proprietor: Astor majority
shareholder and chairman. Oct 24 Steed dismissed. Nov 18
Dawson lays down conditions for resuming editorship.

Jan 1 Dawson returns as editor. Mar 3 Pension fund set up. April 5 Contract for new season's Tutankhamun dig. June 4 Price 2d. Motor insurance scheme dropped.

Times takes pavilion at British Empire Exhibition, Wembley. Colin Coote, Rome correspondent, appointed parliamentary sketch writer. **Jan 8** St Paul's Fund started; by August reaches

Postal subscribers receive copies in wrappers automatically franked

May 5 General Strike: Multigraph machines print 48,000 copies of emergency news sheet, the 'Little Sister'; thereafter publication resumed on rotary presses. Linotype machines introduced

Feb 24 Norman Ebbutt Berlin correspondent. **July 27** Frank Riley, Times correspondent, murdered in China during revolution. **Oct 10** Barrington-Ward assistant editor.

June Casey foreign leader writer. Braham, Australia correspondent, returns to PHS. Nov 6 Howard Williams dies: Ralph Deakin, foreign news editor, takes over department but Dawson decides not to appoint foreign editor.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Jan 18 Leader opposes women's suffrage provisions in Franchise Bill. May 19 Marconi scandal leader, by J C Ross rewritten by Northcliffe. Dec 6 Exclusive: Steed reports Zabern

Feb 19 Literary Supplement now 1d. April 7 First separate edition of Educational Supplement, 1d. May 14 Repington despatch on shell shortage. June 29 Archduke Ferdinand and wife assassinated, report and photo-portraits. July 22-23 Exclusive: King's conference at Palace on Irish question. Aug 2 Sunday issue (first of 19): 278,000 sold. Aug 30 Sunday issue: Mons despatch.

Oct 21 Red Cross Supplement free.

April 3 Trade Supplement first issued: 1d, monthly. June 6 Kitchener obituary. Aug 26 Daylight saving leader. Dec 4 Dawson leader on War Committee Plan. Dec 29 Account of Rasputin's murder too lurid for publication.

Mar Eye-witness accounts of Russian Revolution by Wilton. Dawson refuses to publish Lansdowne 'terms for peace' letter (appeared in Telegraph Nov 28). **Dec 6/7** Bourchier interview with Trotsky

April 13 Haig's 'backs to the wall' order of day published. June 4 Strong attack on Bolshevik policies. Nov 4 Publication of From War to Peace, Northcliffe article on peace terms.

Feb Steed and Adam series of exclusives on Paris peace negotiations. June 16 Photograph of Alcock and Brown's plane which crossed Atlantic. July 24 Four-column leader proposing two state legislatures for Ireland (Steed and Shaw)

Jan 5 Review of Keynes's The Economic Consequences of the Peace. Oct 26 Sympathetic leader on hunger strike death of mayor of Cork. Dec 1 Obituary of Lord Desborough instead of Lord Bessborough published. Dec 23 India Old and New

Feb 19 New format: 7 columns to page. June 22 Leader supports King's peace mission to Ireland. July 23 Off-record interview with Steed in New York Times embarrasses King on Ireland. Aug 16 Protocols of Zion revealed as forgery.

Mar 2 First 'picture page' . May 8 Steed misreports Barthou/ Lloyd George meeting at Genoa Conference. Aug 1 Lord Balfour's Note on war debt to America published. Oct 7 Publication of Bonar Law letter on Chanak crisis. **Dec 1**Tutankhamun leader (Steed's last) after securing exclusive rights to excavation reports.

Jan 10 Report of 'huge' demonstration in Munich addressed by Hitler. Jan 30 First pictures of Tutankhamun's tomb.

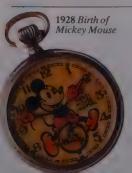
Feb 1 Leader by Williams disapproves of Labour Government recognition of Soviet Russia. Aug 7 Establishment of Committee of Trustees for Times announced

June 15 Front page of Saturday reprinted in error in early copies of Monday. June 26 Mussolini letter In Praise of Fascism. Aug 26 St Paul's Fund leader. Sept 26 German agreement to meet Allies at Locarno announced.

April 14 Exclusive: advance news of Russo-German Treaty. May 12 Afternoon edition announces end of General Strike.

May 23 Lindbergh Atlantic flight reported; pictures and leader.

Jan 6 Lukewarm leader on US (Kellogg) plan to 'outlaw' war. Feb 3 Leader: India at the Crossroads





KNOW 3 TRADES SPEAK 3 LANGUAGES FOUCHT FOR 3 YEARS HAVE 3 CHILDREN AND NO WORK FOR 3 MONTHS 1930 Amy Johnson ONE JOB 1930s Era of unemployment





1945 VE Day

OUTSIDE THE TIMES

- 1929 Ramsay MacDonald Prime Minister. New York Stock Exchange crash. St Valentine Day's massacre, Chicago. Church of Scotland formed.
- Sir Oswald Mosley resigns from Government over unemployment policy. Amy Johnson flies London-Australia. France builds Maginot Line. 1930
- 1931 Mosley forms New Party. Labour Government falls over reduction of unemployment benefits. National Government formed; MacDonald Prime Minister. Britain goes off gold standard. Election: MacDonald Government returned
- 1932 Beginning of 2-year Disarmament Conference, Geneva. Anglo-French Friendship Pact signed. Snowden, Samuel and Sinclair resign from Government. Los Angeles Olympics.
- FD Roosevelt inaugurated America's 32nd President 1933 Unemployment reaches almost 3 million. Hitler becomes German Chancellor. Reichstag set on fire. Anglo-German Trade Pact. First German concentration camps built.
- 1934 Hitler and Mussolini meet in Venice. German plebiscite votes Hitler Führer. Churchill warns of German air force threat. King Alexander of Yugoslavia assassinated, Naval Disarmament Conference in London fails. Cat's-eyes invented
- Stanley Baldwin forms National Government. Malcolm 1935 Campbell's Bluebird reaches 276.8 mph. Robert Watson Watt builds radar equipment. Mussolini invades Abyssinia Government of India Bill passed. Hoare-Laval pact on Abyssinia. Clement Attlee Labour leader. Luftwaffe formed.
- Britain, US, France sign London Naval Convention; Russia accedes. Spanish Civil War; Franco captures Badajoz, siege of Madrid. Edward VIII abdicates; accession of George VI. Mussolini and Hitler proclaim Rome-Berlin Axis. Jesse Owens wins four gold medals at Berlin Olympics.
- Indian National Congress wins elections. Baldwin resigns, Chamberlain Prime Minister. Japanese aggression in China. Britain signs naval agreements with Germany and Russia. Riots in Sudeten region of Czechoslovakia. First Butlin camp.
- 1938 Czech crisis: Sudeten Germans demand autonomy. Eden, Foreign Secretary, resigns; Halifax takes over. Hitler marches on Vienna. Chamberlain meets Hitler; agrees peaceful solution; 'Peace in our time'. British fleet mobilized; gas masks issued. Germany occupies Sudetenland.
- Germany occupies Bohemia and Moravia; Chamberlain guarantees protection to Poland. Compulsory military service; Ministry of Supply set up. Women and children evacuated from London, Germany invades Poland; Britain declares war. 1939 British expeditionary force sent to France. First nylons.
- Rationing. Germany invades Denmark and Norway. Chamberlain resigns; Coalition Government under Churchill; 'Blood, toil, tears and sweat' speech. Italy declares war. France invaded; Dunkirk evacuation. Churchill's 'This was their finest hour' speech. Germans enter Paris. Britain signs agreement with Free French under de Gaulle. Battle of Britain; Blitz. Coventry raid. Chamberlain dies.
- 1941 Britain attacks Italians in North Africa. Hess lands in Scotland Germany invades Russia. Churchill and Roosevelt sign Atlantic Charter. Japanese bomb Pearl Harbour; Britain and America declare war on Japan. Germany and Italy declare war on America. Manhattan Project begins.
- Anglo-Soviet treaty signed. First thousand-bomber raid on Cologne, Battle of El Alamein; Rommel in full retreat. Murder of Jews in Nazi gas chambers begins. National Loaf introduced in Britain. Magnetic recording tape invented Tommy Handley's ITMA is BBC's most popular feature.
- Casablanca conference. Allies invade Italy; unconditional surrender. Italy declares war on Germany. Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt hold Tehran Conference. 1943
- Warsaw uprising. D-Day landings. Assassination attempt on Hitler. Butler's Education Act. De Gaulle enters Paris.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Stanley Morison taken on as technical adviser. **Dec 23**Armorial bearings granted by College of Arms to Times Publishing Company.

Nov 21 Morison submits printed memorandum on plans to revise typography.

Dec First colour issue of Weekly Edition, 6d.

June Dawson in Canada for Ottawa conference; Brumwell in charge. **Oct** Total cost of changeover to Times New Roman, £29,000; inc £11,000 on type, salaries and wages.

Cheap-rate subscribers total 22,000.

Brumwell retires as deputy editor: Barrington-Ward takes over. **Nov** Lewis Northend, staff reporter, tours country canvassing opinion on National Government. Louis Heren, deputy editor 1970-1981, joins paper as messenger.

Jan Vol 1 of The History of The Times published to coincide with 150th anniversary. Dawson makes Basil Liddell Hart military correspondent

Oct 26 Dawson contacts Palace with letter signed Britannicus in Partibus Infidelium, from British citizen in New Jersey, summing up damaging effect of American press coverage of King and Mrs Simpson; enormous postbag but no letters

Dawson's friend, Neville Chamberlain, becomes Prime Minister. **Aug 19** Ebbutt asked to leave Germany. **Oct** Lints Smith retires: Christopher S Kent manager. Air Raid Precaution team set up. Prof E H Carr becomes contributor

Barrington-Ward declines BBC director-general post. Mar 16 Douglas Reed, Vienna correspondent, writes to Dawson describing Nazi war machine. April 27 Record 36-page paper Sept 22 Some junior staff resign over appeasement. Maurice Green financial and industrial editor. Circulation 203,000.

Mar 1 Emergency arrangements made to print in Kettering.
Mar 22-23 Times confiscated in Berlin. April Dawson
announces plan to retire. Aug James Holburn fills long-vacant
post in Moscow. Sept Liddell Hart leaves. Sept 30 Royal
edition suspended. 600 of 1,570 staff join armed forces.

Jan 15 Free supplement celebrates 500th anniversary of movable type. Mar 21 Decision to reduce circulation to 164,000 and keep issues at 10 pages during newsprint rationing. 5th City of London (Press) Battalion of Home Guard formed from Times staff. Sept 25 1.52 am, bomb hits building: nobody hurt; Times prints. Sept 22-Oct 19 183 air raid stoppages during printing.

Jan Carr appointed chief foreign leader writer and assistant editor. April 7 Price 3d. July Editorial staff protest over low salaries: Astor agrees review. Oct 1 Dawson retires, Barrington-Ward, 50, takes over. Dec lan Morrison, son of China Morrison, war correspondent in Singapore.

Jan Leo Kennedy, senior foreign leader writer, and Colin Coote, senior home leader writer, leave. April Thomas Cadett, Paris correspondent, sacked. Harold Child, light leader writer, and Charles Brodribb replaced. Nov 2 Times prints Stars and Stripes, paper for US servicemen.

German rocket threat: plan to print outside London.

July Donald Tyerman, from Economist and Observer, becomes assistant editor. Aug 4 First air edition.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

May 24 Derby Day leader gives first three horses. July 9 Leader welcomes readmittance of Germans to Rhodes Scholarship system. Oct 29 Printing Supplement

Jan 21 London Naval Disarmament Conference with Italy, France, Japan, US, reported. Feb 1 First regular crossword.

Aug 20 Report of Graf Zeppelin's landing in London; pilot, Dr Eckenar, presented with copies of Times. Sept 16 First of five Dawson leaders calling for general election on a non-party

July 21 Leader on Ottawa: 'the most momentous conference in the history of the British nations'. Oct 3 Paper 're-dressed': Times New Roman typeface introduced.

Mar 6 Assessment of Roosevelt's programme. Mar 15 Leader on Hitler's rise to power. April 24 Exclusive pictures of flight over Everest. Nov 17 Dawson leader on Germany: What is the British Policy?

July 2 Half page on reports of murder of Roehm and other Nazis. July 31 Leader supports Baldwin on need for a stronger air force

Jan 1 Special supplement marks 150th anniversary. June 14 Leader suggests 'good neighbour' policy with Germany Dec 16 Dawson article A Corridor for Camels ridicules Hoare-Laval plan to restrict Abyssinia's access to sea.

Jan 22 Welcome for new King, Edward VIII. Mar 9 Mild reproach over German reoccupation of Rhineland. Oct 28 Mrs Simpson's divorce case reported. Dec 1 Crystal Palace burns down, pictures. Dec 3 King and Monarchy leader: first hint of truth in Mrs Simpson rumours.

Jan 4 Anglo-Italian agreement on Mediterranean welcomed. May 13 George VI coronation issue. Nov 15 Women's page

Mar 14 Leader on Austrian invasion. Sept 7 Leader suggests Sudetenland might be given back to Germany. Sept 14 Back to Prague, leader on Hitler's Nuremberg speech, argues 'door open for negotiation'. Dec 9 Times launches fund for Lord Baldwin's Appeal for German Refugees.

Jan 21 Leader optimistic that war threat over. Feb 7/8 Liddell Hart articles recommend Britain should strengthen military force. Mar 16 Leader criticizes Germany following invasion of Bohemia and Moravia: end of appeasement policy. Aug 22 Report of impending Russo-German non-aggression pact.

April 16 Dawson leader asking for smaller, more effective cabinet. **June 7** Character sketch of unknown General de Gaulle. June 18 Airman's patriotic letter to his mother published. June 22 Philby report on continuing French resistance to Germans. June 30 Paper ceases printing Stock Exchange prices (until June 4, 1952). Dec 5 Carr leader, The Two Scourges: war and unemployment.

Feb 12 Times supports Churchill's decision to divert troops to Tripoli. May 1 Article forecasting Hitler's attack on Russia in

Jan 2/3 Sir William Beveridge articles proposing a minister for production. April 11 Sir Edward Grigg article suggests lessening Churchill's control over service chiefs. July 29 Carr leader calling for more British action on Western front. Dec 2 Leader on Beveridge Plan: 'a great social measure'

May 6 Publication of replies by Stalin to written questions from Ralph Parker, Moscow correspondent.

Dec 9 Leader on establishment of National Health Service criticizes cautious BMA.



1954 4-minute mile



1958 Aldermaston march

1962 Marilyn Monroe dies







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OUTSIDE THE TIMES

- Yalta Conference, UN founded, Mussolini killed, Allies reach 1945 Rhine: Russians link up on Elbe. Hitler suicide; Germany surrenders, Election: Labour landslide, Potsdam Conference, Atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, VE day
- UN General Assembly's first meeting in London. Churchill's 'Iron Curtain' speech. Bank of England nationalized. National Health Service Act. Bomb at King David Hotel, Jerusalem. 1046
- Coal industry nationalized. School-leaving age 15. Marshall Plan for European recovery set up. India and Pakistan proclaimed independent. Wedding of Princess Elizabeth.
- British railways, electricity, nationalized. Gandhi assassinated. State of Israel established. Berlin Airlift. Linskey Tribunal investigates corruption charges. British Citizenship Act grants passports to all Commonwealth citizens.
- End of clothes rationing. North Atlantic Treaty signed Chiang Kai-shek resigns, Tientsin falls to Mao Tse-tung's Communists. Gas industry nationalized. Berlin blockade lifted. State of Vietnam established at Saigon.
- Britain recognizes Communist China. Election: Labour majority reduced. Petrol rationing ends. North Korean troops enter South Korea. Atom spy Klaus Fuchs gaoled.
- General MacArthur relieved of Korea command. Burgess and 1951 Maclean defect. Iron and steel nationalized. Churchill forms
 Conservative Government. First colour television in America. British High Commissioner murdered in Malaya
- Cyprus: Greeks attack British forces and Turkish minority, led by Col. Grivas and Archbishop Makarios. Anti-British riots in Egypt. George VI dies. Britain's first atom bomb. Mau Mau uprising in Kenya. Last trams in London. Contraceptive pill produced. America explodes hydrogen bomb
- Steel denationalized. Stalin dies, succeeded by Malenkov. Everest climbed. Coronation of Elizabeth II. Britain recognizes Republic of Egypt. Korean armistice. Sugar rationing ends. Piltdown hoax discovered. Eisenhower President.
- Communists occupy Hanoi. McCarthy witch hunts in US. Food rationing ends. Roger Bannister runs mile in 3 mins. 59.4 secs. Nasser siezes power in Egypt
- Nautilus, first atomic submarine, leaves dock. Malenkov resigns, succeeded by Bulganin. Germany joins NATO. Churchill retires; Anthony Eden Prime Minister. Conservatives 1955 win election. Attlee retires; Gaitskell Labour leader.
- Nasser nationalizes Suez Canal. Anglo-French invasion of Suez. Soviet invasion of Hungary. Martin Luther King campaigns for desegregation. Castro uprising in Cuba.
- Eden retires; Harold Macmillan Prime Minister. Israeli forces 1957 withdraw from Sinai. Wolfenden report on prostitution. Lewisham train disaster. First Sputnik.
- EEC established. CND founded; first Aldermaston march. Fuchs crosses Antarctica. First life peers. Prince Charles Prince of Wales. Khrushchev Soviet Prime Minister. America 1958 launches first moon rocket
- 1959 Britain recognizes Castro. Cyprus becomes Republic Election: Conservative majority 100. Second Vatican Council. M1 opens. EFTA convention agreed
- Macmillan 'wind of change' speech. US early warning system in Britain. RSC formed. Congo independent: chaos follows. 1960
- Kennedy inaugurated President. Bay of Pigs invasion. George 1961 Blake, Gordon Lonsdale, Krogers in London spy trials.
 Macmillan reapplies for EEC entry. US sub at Holy Loch
- 1962 Liberals win Orpington by-election. Independence for Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago. Marilyn Monroe dies. Russia sets up base in Cuba, US blockade; missile crisis.
- Britain refused EEC entry, Gaitskell dies: Harold Wilson Labour leader. Profumo scandal. Great Train Robbery Macmillan retires; Sir Alec Douglas-Home Prime Minister Kennedy assassinated. Martin Luther King arrested.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Jan Churchill attacks Times in Parliament over support for Greek leftists. Stanley Morison becomes editor (for 15 years) of Times Literary Supplement. Oliver Wood returns as

Mar Duncan Burn appointed leader writer and industrial correspondent. Eric Wigham replaces J V Radcliffe as labour correspondent. July Carr leaves. Circulation 276,000.

Hon Hugh Astor joins staff (later wounded in Israel). June 29 Special application for extra newsprint. Dec 31 Barrington-

Feb 28 Barrington-Ward dies in Dar-es-Salaam. April 1 William Francis Casey, 64, made editor. W H Lewis, Washington correspondent since 1920, retires, replaced by John Duncan Miller.

June Royal Commission on Press praises Times's impartiality. June 30 Kent retires: Francis Mathew office manager. Dec 1 Times signs 25-year agreement with Townsend Hook for expensive unrationed paper.

Feb Board agrees rebuilding scheme for PHS. Aug 12 Ian Morrison killed in Korea; Heren replaces him. Contract to print Observer signed. John Lawrence arts editor.

June 15 Parliamentary reports via Teletype: keyboard operated at Westminster, unmanned machine in PHS sets type. New pension scheme, salary review. Astor offers editorship to Sir William Haley, BBC director-general.

E C Hodgkin joins Times as special writer. Feb 11 Price 4d. May 27 Hon Gavin Astor, eldest son of John Astor, appointed director. June 5 Haley, 51, editor; Tyerman chief assistant editor, Patrick Ryan assistant editor. July Iverach McDonald foreign editor. Sept Casey retires. Dec 19 Deakin dies

Jan 1 Royal Edition resumes. Gerald Norman foreign news editor, Robert Dobson home news editor, Geoffrey Woolley letters editor, Maurice Green assistant editor. June Supplements on Coronation and Everest.

April 5-vol edition of Times Atlas of the World. April 19 Miller resigns. Oct 12 London newspaper strike: Times pub Contract to report Vivian Fuchs's Antarctic expedition

Jan Times withdraws from Newsprint Supply Co pool; all paper now Townsend Hook; ignores Government page restriction (lifted 1956). Mar 25 Fleet St dispute; Times stops publication for first time in 170 years. Tyerman leaves.

Times ailing: morale low among young reporters: James Morris leaves. Hugh Astor director. Oliver Woods colonial editor and assistant foreign editor.

Jan 14 'Top People Take The Times' campaign launched. June 30 Times makes pre-tax loss of £79,000. Nov Directors set up Cooper inquiry into Times Publishing Co.

Feb Secret Cooper report criticizes management and reporting style, recommends dropping anonymity rule. Haley states that Times should be paper of record, play useful part in running country, and be balanced, interesting and intelligent.

Gavin Astor, chairman, Hugh, vice-chairman. **Jan** Newspaper rationing ends. Times suffers, having bought shares in Townsend Hook providing costly paper.

Mar 31 Private house demolished to make way for new Printing House Square building.

Feb Green leaves: replaced by Wood. Mar 6 Price 5d. June 8 New building inaugurated. Alun Gwynne Jones defence correspondent

Astor leaves Hever Castle for France to avoid estate duties imposed by Selwyn Lloyd's Budget. David Spanier appointed Common Market correspondent.

Lord Thomson, owner of The Sunday Times, approaches Astor about buying Times: is rebuffed. **Dec** Weekly Edition

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Jan 1 Leader opposes involvement of British troops in Greek Civil War. April 30 Exclusive: Christopher Lumby reports Mussolini's execution. Oct 3/4 Carr leaders on zones of influence and rights of Soviet Union.

Mar 9 Leader, by Rushbrook Williams, on Churchill's Fulton speech. July 12 Michael Burn report of Mihailovic trial in Belgrade, using phrase 'the gale of the world'.

Feb 5 First issue of Review of Industry (previously Trade Supplement). Feb 10 Attack on Government handling of fuel

April 14 Leader advocates trial abolition of hanging. May 15 Leader predicts violence in Israel. July 5 Bevan speech: Tories 'lower than vermin'. Aug 25/26 Wigham on shop-floor disillusion after nationalization.

June 30 Leader doubtful about proposed Press Council. Sept 19 Leader supports Cripps devaluation. Oct 6 Leader urges recognition of Mao Tse-tung government. Dec 17 John Pringle 'wait for it' leader on a new decade.

Feb 23 Polling-day leader (Tyerman) critical of Labour. May 24 Leader rejects suggestion of German rearmament. June 26 Leader on significance of Korean War.

Feb 8 Leader on 'inexcusable miscalculation' over meat rationing. April 30 Leader on threat of nationalism in Middle East. June 18 New type, Claritas (43/4pt), introduced. Oct 25 Polling-day leader urges rejection of Labour.

Mar Quarterly London and Cambridge Economic Bulletin published in Review of Industry. Review of Australia, printed for Princess Elizabeth's and Duke of Edinburgh's visit, withdrawn on death of George VI. June 4 Full Stock Exchange dealings restored.

June 2 Coronation issue. Exclusive report from James Morris on conquest of Everest. June 3 Haley's first leader: plea for return to virtues of hard work, honesty and fair dealings. June 17 Haley leader, The Trojan Horse, opposes commercial TV.

Mar 24 Leader on newsprint rationing limiting press freedom. Sept 3 Haley leader on salvaging 'the European idea'. Nov 8 Article urges immigration control.

Feb 17 Book pages started: edited by Patrick Ryan, articles by 'Oliver Edwards' (Haley). Aug 16 Cartoons introduced. Sept 26 Women's page reintroduced. Oct 15 Leader places European security ahead of German unity

Mar 17 First Science and Medicine Today, April 9 First Architectural Notes. Aug 1 Leader urges firm stand on Suez.

Nov 1 Leader expresses grave doubts over Eden's actions.

Jan 10 Leader favours Butler as Eden's successor. April 1 Value of pound leader. Nov 2 Exclusive coverage of Fuchs's Antarctic expedition begins. Dec 11 Three leaders on NATO.

Jan David Wood begins Monday column. Jan 22 Picture of Hillary-Fuchs South Pole meeting by Stewart Heydinger, sent by radio. July Review of Industry printed in colour. Nov 18 Leader criticizes French attitude to British entry to EEC.

Mar 9 40-page paper. June 1 David Wood speculative article on Selwyn Lloyd's future. Dec 10 Leader by Raoul Colinvaux on failures of legal profession.

Nov 3 Haley leader deplores failure of Lady Chatterley's Lover prosecution. **Nov 29/30** Global strategy leaders.

May 31 TV programmes given precedence over radio.
Oct Explanatory pamphlet 'The Common Market,' published. Dec 4 Leader opposes Commonwealth Immigration Bill.

Sept 20 Haley leader on Royal Commission on Press urges revolution in Fleet Street. Oct 24 Cuban missile crisis assessed by Louis Heren and Nicholas Herbert.

June 11 Haley leader, It is a Moral Issue, on Profumo. Nov 26 Hour-by-hour account of Kennedy funeral. Dec 4-6 Leaders attack Robbins report on university expansion. Dec 27 Music critic, William Mann, praises Beatles.









1981 Harold Evans

1981 London marathon





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OUTSIDE THE TIMES

- 1364 UN takes over in Cyprus. Ian Smith Southern Rhodesia Premier. US bombs North Vietnam. Beatlemania sweeps US. Harold Wilson Prime Minister.
- 1965 Prescription charges abolished. Churchill dies. Edward Heath Conservative leader. Death penalty abolished. Rhodesia declares UDI; sanctions announced. GPO tower opens in London. Malcolm X shot.
- 1966 Indira Gandhi Prime Minister of India. Election: Labour increases majority. Seamen's strike. Wage freeze. Aberfan disaster; 144 children die. Wilson and lan Smith negotiate on HMS Tiger. Italian floods threaten art treasures.
- 1967 Jeremy Thorpe Liberal leader. Torrey Canyon oil disaster. France vetoes EEC entry. Israeli-Arab Six-Day War. Sterling devalued. Biafra war.
- 1968 Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King assassinated. Failure of HMS Fearless talks on Rhodesia. Russia invades Czechoslovakia. Anti-Vietnam demonstration in London.
- 1969 Voting age reduced to 18. Man lands on Moon. Manson murders. Derry riots; Army takes over security in Northern Ireland. EEC agrees British entry.
- 1970 Election: Heath Prime Minister. British airliner blown up on Jordanian airstrip. Industrial Relations Bill. Kent State shooting.
- 1971 Angry Brigade attack home of Robert Carr. Rolls Royce bankrupt. Ulster: first British soldier killed; internment without trial. Idi Amin coup, Uganda. Decimalization.
- 1972 Britain signs EEC treaty. Northern Ireland: 'Bloody Sunday', 13 civilians killed; start of direct rule. Poulson affair. Munich Olympics massacre.
- 1973 Vietnam ceasefire. Watergate. Prices Commission set up. Yom Kippur war. Coal strike; state of emergency; 3-day week.
- 974 Election: minority Labour Government. Industrial Relations Act repealed. Nixon resigns. Prevention of Terrorism Act. John Stonehouse missing. Haile Selassie deposed.
- 1975 Phnom Penh falls. Margaret Thatcher Conservative leader EEC referendum. Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Act. British Leyland rescue.
- 1976 Callaghan Prime Minister. Thorpe resigns. Entebbe raid.
- 1977 Silver Jubilee. Grunwick pickets. Firemen's strike.
- 1978 Ian Smith makes settlement with black nationalists. Pay guideline: 5%. Devolution Bills for Scotland and Wales passed. Mass suicide of religious sect in Guyana.
- 1979 Ayatollah Khomeini returns to Iran. Car bomb kills Airey Neave. Mountbatten assassinated. Thatcher Prime Minister. Euro-Parliament Elections: Britain elects 60 Conservatives. End of UDI. Anthony Blunt accused of spying.
- 1980 Robert Mugabe Rhodesia's Prime Minister. Iranian embassy siege. Yorkshire Ripper hunt. Iran holds American hostages. Moscow Olympics. Reagan elected President.
- 1981 American hostages returned. Yorkshire Ripper, Peter Sutcliffe, caught. Social Democrat Party launched. First London Marathon. Lebanon missile crisis. Riots in Brixton, Toxteth. Pope wounded in Rome. Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer marry. First Greenham Common camp.
- Falklands war. IRA bomb attacks in Hyde Park and Regents Park. Israel rejects Reagan peace plan. Channel 4, first new TV channel for 18 years, goes on air. Israel invades Lebanon; Palestinian refugees massacred.
- 1983 Breakfast television begins. Shergar stolen. Dennis Nilsen charged with mass murder. Election: Thatcher returned. Korean airliner shot down. Neil Kinnock Labour leader.
- 1984 Miners' strike. Lybian People's Bureau siege. Los Angeles Olympic boycott. IRA bomb attack on Conservative conference. Indira Gandhi shot. Reagan re-elected.

INSIDE THE TIMES

Mathew sells Times holding in Townsend Hook to News of the World for £1,114,000. **Oct** Gwynne Jones joins Wilson Government; replaced by Charles Douglas-Home.

May 29 Mathew, 57, dies. George Pope general manager. Sept 9 Haley also chief executive. McDonald managing editor, Wood deputy. Operation Breakthrough launched, to refashion Times, with Donald Holmes.

June 9 Board investigates merger with Financial Times and Westminster Press. Sept 30 Lord Thomson, owner of Sunday Times, buys Times for £2m-plus: forms Times Newpapers Ltd (TNL). Oct Circulation 294,000.

Jan 4 Haley TNL chairman, Denis Hamilton editor-in-chief. Jan 12 William Rees-Mogg, 38, editor. July 15 First preprinted colour pages. Dec 31 Haley resigns.

May 16 \pm 47,000 wages snatch at Times. June 22 Antique silver stolen from boardroom. Peter Jay made joint deputy editor of Business News.

Mar Record daily sale: month's average 451,105. May 19 Stuart Maclure editor of Times Educational Supplement. Oct Price 8d. Dec 31 Royal Edition discontinued.

June 15 Price 9d. July 10 First British national to publish pages (Stock Exchange) produced by photocomposition. Sept 21 New, more classical design. Nov 2 Price one shilling.

Jan 1 Hamilton replaces Hon Kenneth Thomson as TNL chairman. M J ('Duke') Hussey managing director and chief executive. Jan 19 Bernard Levin joins paper.

Tutankhamun exhibition at British Museum sponsored by Times and Sunday Times. **Oct 9** Europa, specially designed type, introduced for text.

Oct 2 First issue of Europa, monthly paper published with Le Monde, La Stampa and Die Welt. Nov 12 Price 6p.

April 1 John Gross editor of TLS. June 24 First issue of Times from new premises in Gray's Inn Road, having sold PHS to The Observer. Sept 30 Price 8p.

Jerome Caminada, foreign news editor, retires after 38 years.

May 10 Price 12p. Aug 4 Lord Thomson, 82, dies.

May 9 Price 15p. Industrial problems throughout year.

Sept 11 The Times Atlas of World History published. **Nov 30** Last issue before TNL suspends publication following succession of disputes with unions. Circulation 295,864.

April 30 First and only International Weekly Edition of Times published in Frankfurt, despite union opposition. Oct 22 Agreement between TNL and unions: 15% reduction in staff, improvements in production, new disputes procedure.

Mar 24 Price 20p July 1 James Evans TNL chairman. Aug 22 Journalists strike. Oct 22 Thomson Organization sets Mar 14 deadline for sale of Times.

Feb 13 Rupert Murdoch buys TNL. Mar 6 Rees-Mogg leaves. Gerald Long appointed managing director. Mar 9 Harold Evans, 52, editor. July 7 Evans, with Edwin Taylor, redesigns paper, last issue of Europa. July 28 Highest ever sale, with pre-Royal Wedding magazine: 526,000.

Mar 15 Harold Evans resigns. Mar 17 W A Gillespie managing director, Sir Edward Pickering executive vice-chairman. Mar 18 Douglas-Home editor. May 3 Times first national newspaper set entirely by photocomposition.

Jan 2 Strike by electricians stops publication for 8 days.

June 25 Portfolio first appears in Times. **Sept** New record average daily sale, 464,000.

EDITORIAL EVENTS

Feb 3 The Pulse of Britain begins: 10 articles by Brian Priestley. **Oct 12** Election leader backs Tories 'without enthusiasm'.

Jan 11 The Dark Million begins: 11 articles on immigrants, by Peter Evans. Jan 25 Four-page 'wraparound' on Churchill's death. April 3 Dismissive leader on proposed University of the Air (Open University).

May 3 News on front page, coat of arms dropped from title, time on clock device changed from 6.06 to 4.30 (average time of ending printing), first Times diary.

Jan 13 Last 'Fourth' Leader. Jan 26 Last unsigned book reviews. April 11 8 cols per page. Separate Business News. Oct 14 First Saturday Review. Oct 23 First Science Report.

Jan 1 One Hundred Year Ago ceases, 25 Years Ago begins. Mar 11 Black Man in Search of Power series. July 27 Douglas-Home's arrest and interrogation in Czechoslovakia

Jan 6 First colour feature: Apollo 8 mission. July 21 Man on Moon picture. Nov 29 Police corruption exposé. Aug 6 Leader on 'unsporting' pre-war plan to kill Hitler.

Mar 23 Interview with Lord Thomson on future of Fleet St. Dec 23 Business News incorporated into main paper.

Mar 17 First nude: Fisons advertisement. Oct 18 First Times Higher Educational Supplement.

Oct 9 Introduction of Times Europa typeface. Dec 21 Leader on the pill: Prevention is Better than Abortion.

June 5 Watergate leader: Due Process of Law? **July 23** Poulson leader dropped after Poulson charged.

Jan 2 Leader supports 3-day week. Mar 4 Peter Hopkirk, staff reporter, on hijacked VC10: first-hand account. Aug 31/ Sept 2 Robert Fisk discloses Ulster troop withdrawal plans.

Feb 14 First Valentine advertisements.**June 7** Leader applauds EEC referendum Yes vote.

Aug 11 Geraldine Norman exposes Tom Keating.

May 11 Commemorative 60,000th issue.

Nov 30 Leader on suspension: There Will be an Interruption.

Nov 21 Anthony Blunt faces press at Times office.

May 29 Letter from Charles Richardson, gang leader on run from prison.

June 2 Information Service starts. **June 19** Preview, entertainments guide, begins. **July 30** Royal Wedding colour wraparound. Royal Arms reinstated.

April 5 Leader: We are all Falklanders now. Aug 30 Times Europa typeface replaced by Times Roman, a version of Times New Roman.

Feb 21 First concise crossword. Spectrum section starts.

April 23 Discovery of Hitler diaries announced (later proved forgeries). Oct 14 Exclusive: Sara Keays statement.

Oct 8 Exclusive interview: Archbishop of Canterbury speaks against Tory policies.

THE TIMES PAST-PRESENT-FUTURE

Editor George Darby Art editor Tony Spalding
Picture editor Michael Young Research Rosemary Atkins
Sub-editor Susana Raby Archivist Anne Piggott
Deputy archivist Sabina Sutherland

With thanks to: Ron King, Jack Lonsdale, Ray Smith, Colin Wilson.
Front cover illustrations: The Hanoverian Royal Arms used on the first issue of
The Daily Universal Register; 3½ newspaper tax stamp

Published by Times Newspapers Ltd 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ

Prints of black-and-white photographs may be obtained from the Times Photosales Library

Filmset by Diagraphic Typesetters Ltd 23 Leather Lane, London EC1N 7TE

Reproduction by Lithospeed Ltd 32 Paul Street, London EC2A 4LB

Printed by Ben Johnson & Co Ltd, York



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- □ even out in space where lenses made of Schott glass help to send back satellite pictures to enable weathermen to make improved forecasts.

These are just a few examples of the many different uses for special glass from Schott. Our continuous research projects are developing new products all the time for use worldwide in the

home and by the chemical, pharmaceutical, electrical, domestic appliances, optical, precision engineering and construction industries.

The Schott Group:

Schott is Europe's largest producer of special glass with 34 member companies worldwide (five of them in the United Kingdom) and 40 production units. We have more than 250 sales offices and agents, over 50,000 different items and an annual turnover of £397 million.

CERAN*, DURAN* and PYRAN* are registered trademarks of Schott Glaswerke.

SCHOTT-UK Schott Glass Ltd., Drummond Road, Stafford ST16 3EL.





DON'T FORGET THE FORMALITIES.



Times are changing. And so, you'll be glad to discover, are Moss Bros.

So make sure you visit us for all your formal wear needs. However formal (or informal) the occasion.



Bedford Street, Covent Garden and branches.

Littlewoods would like to congratulate The Times on its bi-centenary.

Although we can't claim to be as old, we did recently celebrate our Golden Jubilee.

So two great British Institutions still thrive in 1985.

We still continue to provide the very highest standards of customer service, and we're proud to introduce a new series of innovations, right across the board, as part of our continuing plan for growth.

After all, it's you who made us successful. So we owe it to you to set the very highest standards, in all our business areas.

Mail Order

Our Mail Order catalogues have always offered you the top brands to choose from, in the comfort of your own home.

Beautifully designed products at highly competitive prices.

As a further bonus, we're able to offer you competitive credit facilities in our catalogues to help spread the cost of buying.

And now we're proud to introduce a new computerised



ust about

our customers



In Mail Order, they win because of our choice and service.

telephone system to make the ordering easier.

As part of our commitme to you, we've ensured that the system is the most advanced in the whole country.

It complements the large private delivery fleet in Brita handling the massive number of orders we receive – last year, they numbered over 23 million.

Retail Stores

Last year again, 20 millio customers walked through the



wide-ranging, and ensures the best in High Street shopping.

For example, why not take a look at our fabulous range of wines; all are excellent quality and great value for money.

Or take the opportunity to sample our family restaurants, which are fast gaining an enviable reputation all around the country.

<u>Pools</u>

Every week millions of families share the dream of winning a fortune.

And practically every week, somebody does.

Last year, for instance, 7 million coupons were filled in each week.

And, over the years, we've made a lot of people very rich – and very happy. Because we believe that even if you don't win a fortune, you should still have fun playing the Pools!

So, if you haven't yet had the pleasure of doing business with Littlewoods, we hope you soon will.

Ensuring the best for our customers sometimes costs us money.

But we never forget that the surest way of guaranteeing your satisfaction doesn't

enter, they win.

doors of Littlewoods' shops. This year they are able to enjoy the benefits of a new design programme.

What's more, we're also widening our choice by introducing top brand names in our stores – to complement our comprehensive range of own-brand goods.

Covering the whole spectrum from beautifully designed household goods to high fashion, our choice is as attractive as it is

In our Pools, some lucky sustamers win a fortund

cost anything at all.

It's just a question of having the right attitude – and, in-Littlewoods' case, that means welcoming assistants and welcome assistance.

Or, to put it another way, the best way of winning new customers is to put a winning smile on your face.

Littlewoods

The Littlewoods Organisation PLC JM Centre, Old Hall St., Liverpool

COEDIT OLIOTATIONIC ON BEOLIECT



Congratulations to the gentlemen of the press from the gentlemen of the press.



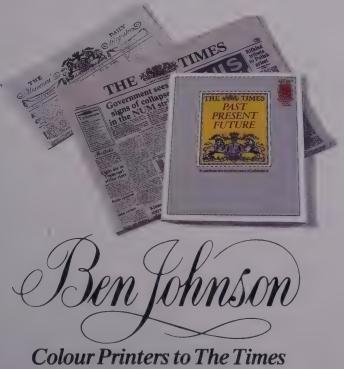
THE TIMES 2085?

What will your great great grandchildren be looking at in a hundred years from now to mark three centuries of The Times?

Will there even be a Times then? The need will still be there for the same objective reporting of contemporary events coupled with interpretation and comment. But will it appear daily in the form of black text and pictures printed on paper? Probably not. It may, for instance, appear on a hand-held screen with direct access to a news databank transmitting constantly up-dated text and pictures of selected subjects of interest to the individual reader.

The equivalent of this commemorative book may be a disk, a series of holograms harking back to the quaint old days of paper and ink or even, as an exercise in nostalgia, a genuine book.

We at Ben Johnson, the printers of this book, do not claim to have the answer yet to the 2085 edition but we are working on it. Just as we anticipate and provide for the needs of the present-day publisher with the latest in print technology, so we will have the resources, electronic and otherwise, to supply the publisher of The Times in 2085 with the means of marking his tricentennial.



York , London & Gateshead



Congratulations from one 200 to another. The year old Audi 200 Turbo is a Luxury car, designed for the a 2.2 litre turbocharged engine capable of 143 mph, and 0-60 in 8.3 seconds and an electronic

A car, 199 years



AUDI 200 TURBO £19291, AUDI 200 INJECTION £14134. NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY CHARGES EXTRA. VIDEO TAPES AND BROCHURES FROM AUDI MARKETIM

Eighties. Its list of standard equipment – ABS (with manual over-ride), cruise control, air-conditioning, autocheck system, makes compulsive reading. Just as The Times has for the past 200 years.



behind the Times.



OMANS DRIVE, BLAKELANDS, MILTON KEYNES MK14 5AN. TEL. (0908) 679121. EXPORT AND FLEET SALES, 95 BAKER STREET, LONDON WIM 1FB.

By Mr. E L L 1 S,

On the Premises, at the Brewhousein S oney-lane, Tooley street, Southwark, on Monday next, the 3d instant, at twelve o'clock,

A BOUT 400 Quarters of Malt and Hops damaged by the late Fire.

To be viewed till the Sale, and Samples to be feen at the Auctioneer's, No. 126, Fenchurch street.

THE FIRM ADVERTISED IN THE SECOND ISSUE OF 'THE DAILY UNIVERSAL REGISTER', ON 3 JANUARY 1785.
RICHARD ELLIS AND 'THE TIMES' HAVE BEEN BUSINESS PARTNERS EVER SINCE.

In the beginning, there was Richard Ellis.

Harrisons & Crosfield

established in 1844 as tea and coffee merchants and now a UK-based international group with activities covering tropical plantations, chemicals manufacturing and distribution, trading in commodities and merchanting a wide range of products including timber and building supplies.



Congratulates The Times on its bi-centenary

Casio. The name for innovation in advanced technology.

Watches that can do calculations just by touching

the face with your fingers.

The only calculator that is the exact size of the credit card you carry in your pocket – even down to the thinness.

A real synthesizer that's inexpensive enough for almost anyone to own.

A powerful business micro computer, small enough to fit in a briefcase.

Casio products – watches, musical instruments, calculators, electronic cash registers, personal computers – all exemplify a record of innovation unmatched in the industry.

And Casio's huge investment in research and development means that Casio will continue to lead the field in creating new products to meet new

demands.

The Casio dedication to quality and reliable values met with such favourable response from both consumer and trade alike, that the sales volume achieved allows the products to sell at remarkably competitive prices.

No wonder the name Casio has come to be

synonymous with value for money.

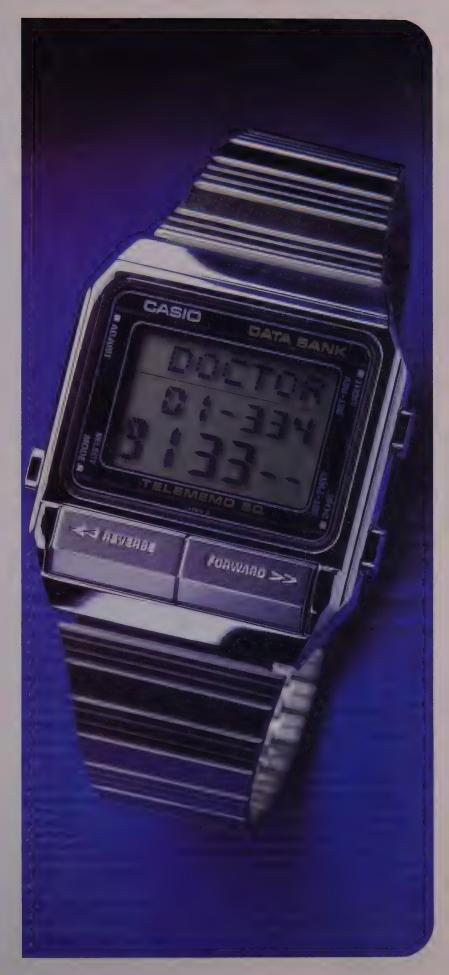
Casio is a Japanese company that exports to more than 140 countries all over the world, with subsidiaries in the U.S., West Germany and England.

Proof indeed of the Casio philosophy that innovative products manufactured to the highest standards of quality are the keys to marketing success.

The DB500 Databank watch. Outwardly a conventional digital watch, it stores up to 50 telephone numbers and names plus there's a memory which can' store bank account codes, anniversaries and birthdays, price tables, flight and train schedules – you can refer to them all at the touch of a button. It also includes a daily alarm plus four appointment alarms. Other features are a $\frac{1}{100}$ second stop watch and countdown timer – and all for an R.R.P. of only £41.95.



KEYBOARDS, CALCULATORS, WATCHES, COMPUTERS, CASH REGISTERS.





The Times most regular correspondent.

Only the best written letters appear in The Times.

Short works of poignant commentary; bursts of ready wit; indignant pleas for social justice.

Doubtless written by people as meticulous over the equipment they write with, as the words they write down.

Which is why one author of such discerning taste was moved to suggest that The Times most regular correspondent is probably a Parker pen.

All our pens, from the 18 carat Premier gold fountain-pen at £2,000 to the humble Jotter at £2.50, are built to the same simple ideal: they should write perfectly every time they are used.

So we subject our pens to tests beyond the endurance of others and check each one over 100 times before our craftsmen will allow it to be sold.

Small wonder that Parker has become a sign of The Times.

Make your mark a Parker

The Thomas Cook Challenge.

A much better deal



We can drive tough bargains with car hire operators all over the world. And we have a special

relationship with Hertz: negotiating deals throughout the year, for you to take advantage of.



Thomas Cook has the buying power to bring airfares down. You need

never pay full price if a

cheaper fare is available. And for complex multidestination trips, we can work out alternative money-saving itineraries.



As you'd expect, Thomas Cook offers corporate rates with the major chains. But often we can undercut the corporate rates.

Our secret is Hotelnet, a unique Thomas Cook service that negotiates with each hotel locally - in a growing number of UK and international business destinations.



A much better service



No other travel company can match them-80 UK centres, linked to offices in 143 countries. Yet the purpose of this massive

network, backed by the world's largest travel organisation, is to give you personal attention from a travel specialist.



High technology keeps us right up to date. Thomas Cook Business Travel uses our exclusive Information Bankthe most advanced Viewdata

system in the country. All branches have immediate access to data, updated daily in our mainframe computer at Peterborough.



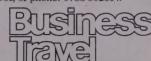
We save you time and trouble as well as money. Everything from checking visa applications to looking after children travelling alone. We have permanent airport hospitality services at both Heathrow and

Gatwick. And we can monitor your monthly travel spend to give you up-to-date management information.

Fill in the coupon and send to: Director, Business Travel Sales, Thomas Cook, PO Box No 36, Peterborough, PE3 6SB. Telex: 32561, or phone: 0733 502597.

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BY CHARLES DOUGLAS-HOME Editor of The Times

In the history of this newspaper there have been periods of plenty, periods of privation and some long stretches of relative equilibrium.

We are now at the start of a period of expansion which I hope will be one of the most distinctive in our history

ach day as I approach my office I pass the portraits of all the previous editors of *The Times*. They hang on the wall opposite. There are only 11 of them, spanning nearly 200 years. It is remarkable reading back through the history of *The Times* what similar problems, hopes and fears have beset each editor in his day.

As daily newspapermen we live for tonight's edition. It is paramount in our minds. It always has been. But nobody should thus assume that the life of all editors of The Times is entirely episodic, struggling from day to day to bring out a paper with the first news and the finest commentary on that news. On the contrary, though the demands of tonight's edition have always been the immediate stimulus, the underlying fascination of the editor's role has been to harness this circadian energy to a system which would ensure the long-term success, growth and prosperity of the paper

The editor has always wanted more readers and more money for his paper. More money can provide bigger papers and a better service for more readers. Extra readers will provide a wider base of circulation for advertisers. Revenue from circulation rises, as does revenue from extra advertising. These are the ideal conditions for expansion, provided that the costs of producing more copies of a bigger paper are kept contained.

For 200 years now we have been trying to create such ideal conditions and then exploit them. In the history of *The Times* there have been periods of plenty, periods of privation and some long stretches of relative equilibrium.

As Î write we are at the start of a period of expansion which I hope will be one of the most distinctive in our history. The circulation and

advertising revenue have both risen 55 per cent in the past two years. Our sales figure in the autumn of 1984 is the highest in our history. Can we now break through those constraints which have held back *The Times* for the past 20 years?

In that time we have certainly been in the wars. We have had two changes of ownership, a stoppage of 50 weeks, and numerous other interpretions.

Nevertheless, in all of those 20 years I have not hitherto had a sense of such pervasive expansionism about *The Times* as I now encounter, not just in the editorial department but throughout the company. People have so often written off *The Times* or suggested that it is some kind of stuffy old monument which perhaps should be preserved (though at not much cost) that its emergence from this long night of struggle into the relative light of day has caused surprise, even resentment, and often incredulity.

We are not paying our way yet; but we hope to. We see every advantage in widening the readership of the paper even more than we have done so far. Gone are the days when The Times could or should imagine that it need only appeal to a limited section of society which was exclusively concerned with government. Society itself has changed. There is no such thing now as the commanding heights of the Establishment, sufficient to sustain a parish magazine for enlightened readers.

Our society and our readership is broader. We hope to appeal to all people interested in public affairs, of course. But we no longer believe that public affairs means only the traffic of business within the political Establishment. It means society at large, its customs, trends, fads, fashions, sports and scandals. We are in the business of contemporary

history, which is the history of everyday things. It must be our hope that 20 years hence, and 100 years hence, a study of *The Times* in microfilm will reveal how our readers saw the world and what we made of it.

As journalists, therefore, we have our work cut out to provide a service which remains distinctive when compared to all the other demands on the reader's time and desire for information. The electronic age must be exploited by us to produce a better newspaper, but none of us believes that the small screen or even the print-out is likely to be a satisfactory substitute for the daily newspaper.

We provide our readers with about 150,000 words a day in a portable, durable and familiar package. A reader can choose as much or as little as he or she requires, but the whole is presented in a form which claims to have a coherent personality about it. That personality is born of familiarity not just with the paper's sections and its rhythm, but with its idiosyncracies, errors and emotions. Those will never be so apparent, let alone familiar, in an electronic medium.

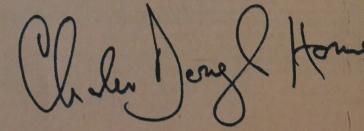
Nevertheless, the coming revolution in information technology is a potential threat to newspapers as well as an opportunity. Since we are a repository of such an enormous amount of information, we can expect to traffic in that commodity more skilfully than we do now, for syndication agencies, specialized

services and the like. These should help us improve the quality of the newspaper by increasing its revenue and providing us with useful devices which will discipline us to distiinformation for the greater convenience of our readers.

Beyondthat, we should hope that electronic techniques will enable journalists to work faster and to cal on more sources of information and research. They should also enable the paper to be produced at lower cost, so that we might even be able to reduce its price.

The electronic age will spawr many ancillary publishing enterprises to support newspapers. These will penetrate new markets which might only want a fraction of what we offer every day in our pages for the general reader. They should not however, so preoccupy us that they lift our attention from the main aim which is to produce an excellent paper every day, much as our predecessors have done for the past 200 years.

Thus at the start of every day and at the end, it is the newspaper coming through the letter box, unfolding on the breakfast table, and embracing a constituency of readership which has some sense of community about it and some almost subliminal connection with the writers and editors on the paper's staff, which is the living organism. Were it not for that, I do not believe that any newspaper would have survived 200 years. It is because of that that I expect our paper to survive the next 200 years.







SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1985.

To the Public.

January 1,1785: the first issue of The Daily Universal Register, later renamed The Times. Its founder, John Walter, wrote: 'To bring out a new paper is certainly an arduous undertaking